### DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 351 395 TM 019 234

TITLE Connecticut Education Evaluation and Remedial

Assistance. Grade 8 Mastery Test Results. Summary and

Interpretations: 1991-92.

INSTITUTION Connecticut State Dept. of Education, Hartford.

PUB DATE 92 NOTE 163p.

PUB TYPE Statistical Data (110) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC07 Plus Postage.

DESCRIPTORS Achievement Gains; Criterion Referenced Tests;

Educational Objectives; Educational Trends; \*Grade 8; Junior High Schools; \*Junior High School Students; Language Arts; Listening; \*Mastery Tests; Mathematics Achievement; Reading Achievement; Remedial Programs; State Programs; \*State Surveys; Student Evaluation; Testing Programs; \*Test Results; Trend Analysis;

Writing Achievement

IDENTIFIERS \*Connecticut Mastery Testing Program

### **ABSTRACT**

The Connecticut Mastery Test testing program assesses essential skills in mathematics and language arts, including listening, reading, and writing, for grades 4, 6, and 8. For grade 8, student achievement is measured and reported in relation to specific learning objectives (criterion-referenced) that students can reasonably be expected to have mastered by the end of grade 7. In 1991, eighth graders mastered an average of 25.8 or the 36 mathematics objectives tested, a slight improvement over the 1990 result. A total of 87.8 percent scored at or above the remedial standard, equaling last year's figure. A total of 38.1 percent scored at or above the mathematics goal, an improvement over 1990's 37 percent. In language arts, the mastery of 8.3 of 11 objectives represented a slight decline from 1990. In writing, eighth graders showed improvement in meeting objectives and scoring above the writing goal, but there was a slight decline in students scoring above the remedial standard, from 93.2 percent in 1990 to 92.5 percent in 1991. Eighth graders averaged 63 units on the Degrees of Reading Power, equaling 1990's figure. Small improvements were registered in the numbers of students scoring above the remedial standard and the reading goal. Fourteen charts present test results and comparative information from 1986 through 1991. Twelve appendixes provide supplemental information on testing and scoring procedures. (SLD)



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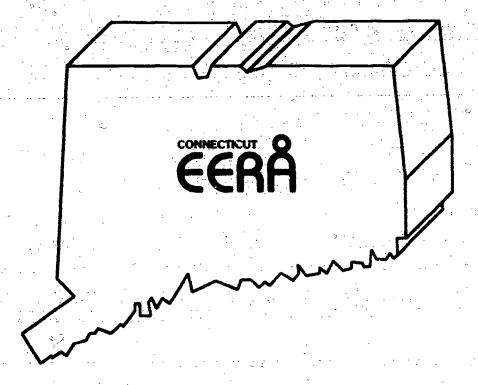
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### CONNECTICUT EDUCATION EVALUATION AND REMEDIAL ASSISTANCE

GRADE 8 MASTERY TEST RESULTS

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SUMMARY AND INTERPRETATIONS 1991-92



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Connecticut Education Evaluation and Remedial Assistance

GRADE 8 MASTERY TEST RESULTS

SUMMARY AND INTERPRETATIONS: 1991-92

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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### LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

In June 1984, the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut amended Section 10-14 m-r of the Connecticut General Statutes, an act concerning Education Evaluation and Remedial Assistance (EERA). This law provides that:

- o By May 1, 1985, each local or regional board of education shall have developed and submitted for State Board of Education approval, a new plan of educational evaluation and remedial assistance. Each plan had to address the following:
  - o the use of student assessment results for instructional improvement;
  - o the identification of individual students in need of remedial assistance in language arts/reading and mathematics;
  - o the provision of remedial assistance to students with identified needs: and
  - o the evaluation of the effectiveness of the instructional programs in language arts/reading and mathematics.
- o The State Board of Education shall administer an annual statewide mastery test in language arts/reading and mathematics to all fourth-, sixth- and eighth-grade students, with the following exceptions:
  - o Special Education students who are excluded by a Planning and Placement Team (PPT) decision;
  - o students who have been enrolled in an "English as a Second Language" program for two years or less; or
  - o students enrolled in a Bilingual Program (as defined in Section 10-17e of the Connecticut General Statutes) for two years or less.
- o Each student who scores below the statewide remedial standard on one or more parts of the eighth-grade mastery examination shall be retested. These students shall be retested annually, using the eighth-grade mastery test, only in the deficient area(s) until such students score at or above the statewide remedial standard(s).
- o Biennially, each local or regional board of education shall submit to the State Board of Education a report which includes indicators of student achievement and instructional improvement.
- On a regularly scheduled basis, the State Board of Education shall complete field assessments of the implementation of local EERA plans.



On an annual basis, test results and low income data shall be used to determine the distribution of available state funds to support remedial assistance programs.

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview and summary of the implementation of the eighth-grade Connecticut Mastery Test. The mastery test assesses how well each student is performing on those skills identified by content experts and practicing educators as important for students entering eighth grade to have mastered.



The Connecticut Mastery Test is a critical element in Connecticut's agenda to attain educational equity and excellence. The testing program assesses essential skills in mathematics and language arts, including listening, reading and writing, for grades four, six and eight students. Student achievement is measured and reported in relation to specific learning objectives that students reasonably can be expected to have mastered by the end of grades three, five and seven.

The Connecticut Mastery Test provides valuable educational information which can be used to improve instruction and elevate the achievement of Connecticut's students. The test results are reported in a manner that identifies how well each student is succeeding in relation to clearly defined and meaningful standards. It is our hope that educators throughout the state use the results as a tool to gain better understanding of the learning occurring in our classrooms and the ways to increase learning in the future.

Connecticut is committed to an annual cycle of assessment in order to promote:

- o the monitoring of individual student achievement;
- o the evaluation of instructional program effectiveness;
- o educational goal setting; and
- o remedial assistance program improvement.

An examination of the results since 1985 reveals many signs of steady, incremental improvement. The general improvement since the start of the program is quite impressive in some areas. Yet the many Connecticut educators who helped to build the program had the foresight to include some very demanding content and standards. Student performance in relation to these expectations reveals that much remains to be done.

As you examine these results, it is our hope that the many stories they tell will prove useful and informative. Department staff are available to facilitate the interpretations and application of these test scores.

Peter Behuniak Acting Chief

Bureau of Evaluation and Studeni Assessment



### OVERVIEW OF THE MASTERY TESTING PROGRAM

In the spring of 1984, the Connecticut General Assembly amended the Education Evaluation and Remedial Assistance (EERA) legislation to authorize the creation of mastery tests in the basic skill areas of mathematics and language arts, including listening, reading and writing skills. The tests were to be established for grades four, six and eight.

The goals of the mastery testing program are:

- o earlier identification of students needing remedial education;
- o testing a more comprehensive range of academic skills;
- o setting high expectations and standards for student achievement;
- o more useful test achievement information about students, schools and districts:
- o improved assessment of suitable equal educational opportunities; and
- o continual monitoring of students in grades four, six and eight.

The type of test that best addresses these goals is a criterion-referenced test. Criterion-referenced tests are designed to assess the specific skill levels of students. Such tests usually cover relatively small units of content. Their scores have meaning in terms of what each student knows or can do. Test results are used to identify the areas of strengths and weaknesses of each student.

### MASTERY TEST CONTENT

The CMT is designed to assess essential language arts/reading, writing and mathematics skills that can reasonably be expected to be mastered by most students by the end of the third, fifth and seventh grades. The specific skills to be tested within these content areas were identified by committees of educators from throughout the state. In addition, surveys were sent to many teachers, administrators and parents to determine the appropriateness of these skills for the Mastery Test. A complete description of the procedures used in the development of the eighth-grade CMT can be found in Appendix A (p. 33).

### Mathematics

The Mathematics Advisory Committee recommended a grade eight mathematics test that assessed thirty-six (36) specific objectives in four domains: (1) Conceptual Understanding; (2) Computational Skills; (3) Problem Solving/Applications; and (4) Measurement/Geometry. There are four test items per objective for a total of 144 items on the mathematics test. A detailed list of domains and objectives is given in Appendix B (p. 37).



### Language Arts

The Language Arts Advisory Committee recommended a 111-item grade eight language arts test that covers two domains: Reading/Listening and Writing/Study Skills. Eleven (11) objectives were recommended by the Language Arts Advisory Committee.

The general content area of Reading/Listening consisted of narrative, expository and persuasive passages on a variety of topics measuring a student's ability in: (1) Literal Comprehension; (2) Inferential Comprehension; and (3) Evaluative Comprehension. Audiotapes were used to assess students' listening comprehension ability in: (1) Literal Comprehension and (2) Inferential and Evaluative Comprehension. The Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) test was also used to assess reading. The DRP test included eleven (11) passages and seventy-seven (77) test items. It was designed to measure a student's ability to understand nonfiction English prose at different levels of reading difficulty.

The general content area of Writing/Study Skills consisted of three components. First, there was a writing sample for direct, holistic assessment of student writing. Each student was asked to write a composition on a designated topic. Writing was then judged on a student's demonstrated ability to convey information in a coherent and organized fashion. Second, the mechanics of good writing, which was defined as (1) Capitalization and Punctuation, (2) Spelling, (3) Agreement and (4) Tone, were assessed in a multiple-choice format. Third, Study Skills were assessed through Locating Information and Note-taking/Outlining. Locating Information (Schedules, Maps, Index and Reference Use), measured a student's ability to find and use information from the sources listed. Note-taking and Outlining tested a student's ability to take notes and report information as well as complete missing outline information. A detailed list with objectives and number of items per objective is given in Appendix C (p. 41).

### **FUTURE DEVELOPMENT**

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), in conjunction with content consultants and various CMT advisory committees, has begun the development of the second generation of the CMT. The current CMT is under review to determine which skills are appropriate for inclusion on the new test. In addition, new content areas and other forms of assessment techniques (e.g., performance assessment and short-answer questions) are being considered. It is anticipated that the second generation CMT will be administered for the first time statewide in the fall of 1993. Items for this set of exams were piloted in the fall of 1991 and will be followed by a second pilot in the fall of 1992.



### SETTING MASTERY STANDARDS BY OBJECTIVE

The essence of the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) is the establishment of a specific mastery standard against which each student's knowledge and competency on each objective can be compared. The mastery test incorporates appropriate and challenging expectations for Connecticut public school students. The goal of the CMT Program is for each student to achieve mastery of all objectives. The objectives being tested were identified as appropriate and reasonable for students at each of the grades tested. These tests are designed to measure a student's performance on these specific objectives.

The process of establishing the mastery standards by objective used a statistical method that required two decisions to be utilized. The first decision defined a student who mastered a particular skill as one who had a 95% chance of correctly answering each item within the objective. The second decision was that the specific standard for each objective would identify 99% of the students who mastered the skill. By applying the two decision rules stated above to a binomial distribution table, mastery standards were established for the 36 mathematics objectives and the 11 language arts objectives.

The mastery standards are as follows:

- o In mathematics, for each of the 36 objectives, a student must answer correctly at least 3 out of 4 items.
- o In language arts, for the 11 multiple-choice objectives with varying numbers of items, a student must answer correctly the following numbers of items:

	# Items Correct _For Mastery
WRITING MECHANICS	
<ul><li>(1) Capitalization &amp; Punctuation</li><li>(2) Spelling</li><li>(3) Agreement</li><li>(4) Tone</li></ul>	9 out of 12 6 out of 8 11 out of 15 3 out of 4
STUDY SKILLS	
<ul><li>(5) Locating Information</li><li>(6) Note-taking and Outlining</li></ul>	9 out of 12 3 out of 4
LISTENING COMPREHENSION	
<ul><li>(7) Literal</li><li>(8) Inferential and Evaluative</li></ul>	3 out of 4 12 out of 16
READING COMPREHENSION	
<ul><li>(9) Literal</li><li>(10) Inferential</li><li>(11) Evaluative</li></ul>	6 out of 8 10 out of 14 10 out of 14

No mastery standards were set for the two holistic language arts measures, neither the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) test nor the Writing Sample, since these measures are not composed of objectives on which mastery could be assessed.



### SETTING REMEDIAL (GRANT) STANDARDS

In addition to mastery standards, Section 10-14 m-r of the Connecticut General Statutes requires that the Connecticut State Board of Education establish statewide standards for remedial assistance in order to meet two responsibilities:

- o to identify and monitor the progress of students in need of remedial assistance in language arts/reading and mathematics as part of the EERA field assessments; and
- o to distribute EERA funds based on the number of needy students statewide, as well as for use in the Chapter 2 and Priority School District Grants.

Students who score below the remedial standard(s) are eligible for services provided for in EERA legislation. Remedial standards were established by the State Board of Education acting on the recommendations of committees that represented Connecticut citizens and educators. The standard-setting committees recommended the following remedial standards:

- 1. In mathematics, a student who answers fewer than 78 of the 144 items (54%) correctly is required to receive further diagnosis by the local school district and, if necessary, to be provided with remedial assistance.
- 2. In reading, a student whose Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) unit score is lower than 55 is required to receive further diagnosis and, if necessary, to be provided with remedial assistance.
- 3. In writing, a student receiving a total holistic score less than 4 is required to receive further diagnosis by the local school district and, if necessary, to be provided with remedial assistance.

The mastery and remedial standards were established by the State Board of Education on June 4, 1986. For a detailed explanation of the remedial standard-setting process, see Appendix D (p. 43).

### STATEWIDE ACHIEVEMENT GOALS

In addition to mastery and remedial standards, statewide achievement goals have been established in the content areas of mathematics, reading (DRP) and writing. These goals represent high expectations and high levels of achievement for Connecticut public school students.

The achievement goals are as follows:

- o In mathematics, all students must master 31 of 36 objectives tested.
- o In reading, a student must score a Degree of Reading Power (DRP) unit score of 62 with 80% comprehension.
- o In writing, a student must score a total holistic score of 7 on a scale of 2 to 8.



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### STUDENT GROWTH OVER TIME

The Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) Program is designed to provide criterion-referenced information about the level of student mastery of objectives in grades four, six and eight. However, the basic scores reported for the mastery tests do not provide a system for evaluating achievement growth from grade four to grade six to grade eight. This is so because mastery decisions are based on student performance (mastery/non-mastery) on objectives that are unique to grade level. Mastery of objectives cannot be compared directly across grade levels and tests because of the differences in the number of objectives, curriculum content and levels of difficulty. In order to make valid interpretations across grade levels, the mastery test performance must first be linked using a procedure called vertical equating.

### Purpose of Vertical Equating

Vertical equating is a psychometric technique for comparing tests at all ability levels. This is accomplished by putting them on a new scale which is common to the tests. Vertical equating is based on two assumptions. The first is that learning is continuous. The second is that instruction in each area is related to increased achievement in that area. These assumptions enable test developers to create a scale score that covers a wide range of content over several grades. The development of these "growth scales" is a common practice and has been used successfully in the development of a variety of achievement test batteries. The purpose of vertical equating is to provide one scale score system which can be used to compare performance across multiple grade levels. This score system enables test users to interpret test score information over time without altering the basic nature of the testing program. This achievement growth can be monitored over time on the basis of student performance on the CMT across grades.

### Development of Vertical Scales

In order to develop a vertical scale, performance on the grade four, grade six and grade eight mastery tests was statistically linked. This was accomplished during the 1987 administration of the CMT using representative statewide samples of approximately 5,000 sixth-grade students and approximately 7,000 eighth-grade students. Each group of students at grade six and grade eight was administered the appropriate on-grade level test form of the CMT along with one below-grade level section of the CMT. Specifically, each group of eighth-grade students took the grade eight test as usual and a part of the grade six test. Likewise, each sixth-grade group took the grade six test as usual along with a section of the grade four test. Each sample of students took only one below-level section of the CMT involving approximately one hour of additional testing time. Performance on the below-level items was not counted toward the CMT scores of individual students. For each of these linking samples, item difficulty estimates were obtained for the on-grade and below-grade level items by analyzing all items together as one test. Once items from the on-grade and below-grade level tests were linked, item difficulties from each level of the CMT were adjusted to a common metric to produce the vertical scale.



Vertical scales were established in the content areas of mathematics and the reading comprehension section of the language arts test. For each grade and content area, every correct score corresponds to a specific value on a common score scale (vertical scale). Each of the vertical scales was constructed so that each scale score point represents the same theoretical achievement level whether derived from a score on the grade four test, a score on the grade six test, or a score on the grade eight test. This allows valid interpretations of growth across time using tests differing in content, length and item difficulty. All items on the mathematics and reading comprehension tests were used in the development of the vertical scales. The writing and language arts tests were not scaled because of the nature of these assessment processes. The Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) test employs DRP unit scores which are already on a common scale across grades, obviating the need for any other development. (For more information see Congero, W.J., 1989, The Development of Vertical Scales to Enhance the Evaluation of Assessment Data. presented at the annual conference of the National Council of Measurement in Education, San Francisco, CA. This paper is available through the Student Assessment and Testing Unit of the Bureau of Evaluation and Student Assessment.)

Scaled scores can be used to measure growth over time because CMT scores from all three grade levels have been placed on a common scale. These scales provide a means of monitoring students' academic progress from grade to grade. Before the scales were developed, it was difficult to assess the performance of groups of test takers as they moved from grade to grade because of differences in test length, curriculum content covered and levels of difficulty on the fourth-, sixth- and eighth-grade tests.

Since students who took the fourth-grade test in 1988 subsequently took the sixth-grade test in 1990, change in test performance can be assessed across two years' time. Similarly, change in performance can be assessed for 1991 sixth graders who took the grade four test in 1989. A summary of the overall growth in performance for these two groups of students in the content areas of mathematics and reading comprehension can be found in the 1991-92 Grade 6 Summary and Interpretations Manual. Students who took the fourth-grade tests in 1986 subsequently took the sixth-grade test in 1988 and the eighth-grade test in 1990. Similarly, students who took the fourth-grade test in 1987 subsequently took the sixth-grade test in 1989 and the eighth-grade test in 1991. A summary of the overall growth in performance for these groups of students in the content areas of mathematics and reading comprehension can be found on pages 30 and 31 of this manual.

### NORMATIVE INFORMATION

The CMT Program is designed to provide detailed information about fourth—, sixth— and eighth—grade students' mastery of specific skills and objectives. The provision of national norms with CMT results is intended to enhance the usefulness and flexibility of mastery test information by offering a bridge to conventional norm—referenced testing programs. The decision to provide normative information with the CMT does not change the essential purposes of our criterion—referenced testing program. The CMT will continue to be used for diagnostic and other instructional purposes with results reported at the student, classroom, school, district and state levels.



In particular, national norms provide greater:

- O Test Economy. By providing national norms with CMT results, school districts can eliminate their standardized testing programs at these grades, thus saving money and undue testing time while retaining normative data.
- O Test Efficiency. Federal compensatory programs require the systematic testing of students using instruments that can provide normative information. Because norms are provided with the CMT, school districts will not have to "double test" compensatory program students. This service allows for increased instructional time for these students.
- o Test Interpretability. Criterion-referenced test (CRT) programs may be criticized because the public has difficulty interpreting CRT performance. National norms will assist in the interpretation of CMT performance by providing a traditional benchmark with which the public is familiar.

### Development of Norms

In order to provide estimated national norm-referenced data based on CMT performance, items on the CMT were statistically linked to items on a nationally norm-referenced test (NRT). Content-appropriate items from a nationally normed host test were included on the CMT to provide a common referent to both tests. Test equating procedures were then used to link CMT items with the normed test by placing all the items on a common scale. With this linkage in place, estimates of how the performance of Connecticut students compares to a national sample could be made. The NRT used to accomplish this task was the sixth edition of the Metropolitan Achievement Test (MAT-6), normed in 1986. The equating of the CMT to the MAT-6 enabled group summary scores on the CMT to be interpreted relative to the MAT-6 nationally representative normative data.

The CMT was initially equated to the MAT-6 during the pilot testing phase to investigate the relationship of the test content and material between the two tests and the differential nature of the items included on the CMT and MAT-6. In addition, these preliminary data provided a benchmark by which the stability of the link could be monitored over time. The stability issue is monitored each year by readministering MAT-6 items during CMT administrations using representative statewide samples. The comparison of these data with prior information provides the information necessary to identify the instructional effects on student performance over time and to update the CMT/MAT-6 link as appropriate. This monitoring and updating ensures the continued accuracy of the normative estimates.

### RESEARCH OPTIONS PROGRAM

The Research Options Program is a free service provided by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) to help educators and educational policymakers gain access to the extensive information available from the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT). Participation in the Research Options Program is completely voluntary.



The Research Options Program allows educators and educational policymakers (i.e., superintendents, principals, researchers, evaluators and school board members) to benefit from customized research investigations designed to suit their individual needs or questions. Many school districts have taken advantage of the Research Options Program in previous years to successfully address special local concerns.

The Research Options Program provides a number of ways of examining student achievement, as measured by the CMT. For example, one method is to compare aggregated student test scores obtained from the CMT in two or more categories of interest. Categories might include males and females, special program students compared to non-special program students, or any other comparison. These reports include tables that show the proportion of students mastering each objective, average number of objectives mastered and the achievement indicators for students on each component of the test under consideration. These breakdowns allow district personnel to directly compare the performance of specific groups of students. In addition, graphics are provided, as appropriate, with each report in order to simplify the task of interpreting data.

The Research Options component of the CMT has grown a great deal since the first study was performed on the Connecticut Basic Skills Proficiency Test almost a decade ago. This year, test directors and evaluators in 26 districts took advantage of this valuable resource to address questions of local interest. In addition, statewide programs such as Bilingual Evaluation, Chapter I and School Effectiveness have used the research options to obtain useful information for participants in over 100 districts. [For more information see Mooney, R.F., 1989, The Connecticut Mastery Test Research Options Program: The Application of State Criterion-Referenced Test Reports for Local Research Needs. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Council of Measurement in Education, San Francisco, CA. See also the Research Options Handbook (1988) provided by the Connecticut State Department of Education. (These references are available through the Student Assessment and Testing Unit of the Bureau of Evaluation and Assessment.)]

### TEST ADMINISTRATION AND SCORING

The regular administration of the Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) for 1991 was conducted using Form D during a three-week period commencing on September 23, 1991. Test sessions were conducted by local school district staff under the supervision of local test coordinators who had been trained by staff of the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and The Psychological Corporation (TPC). A student who took all subtests participated in approximately eight hours of testing.

The Grade 8 Connecticut Mastery Test had eight testing sessions.

- Mathematics I (60 minutes)
- Mathematics II (60 minutes)
- Mathematics III (60 minutes)
- Writing Sample (45 minutes)
- Degrees of Reading Power (70 minutes)
- Reading Comprehension (60 minutes)
- Listening Comprehension (45 minutes)
- Writing Mechanics/Study Skills (60 minutes)



At the conclusion of the make-up testing period, answer booklets were returned to TPC in San Antonio, Texas for optical scanning and scoring, and then organized in preparation for holistic scoring workshops.

### Scoring of the Language Arts and Mathematics Tests

The mathematics and language arts multiple-choice tests were machine-scored by TPC. Mathematics scores were reported for the total test as well as for mastery by each objective. Language arts scores were reported for mastery of each objective only.

### Scoring of the Writing Sample

Every writing sample was scored by Connecticut educators using a technique known as the holistic scoring method. Holistic scoring is an impressionistic and quick scoring process that rates written products on the basis of their overall quality. It relies upon the scorers' trained understanding of the general features that determine distinct levels of achievement on a scale appropriate to the group of writing pieces being evaluated. All participants received on-site training and were required to demonstrate a clear understanding of the scoring criteria prior to actually scoring student essays. Each paper receives a final score between 2 and 8, where 2 represents a poor paper and 8 represents a superior paper. A thorough description of the training and scoring process, including sample papers representing different holistic scores, is presented in Appendix E (p. 49).

In past years, the Connecticut Mastery Test writing sample was scored exclusively by Connecticut teachers. Following this year's scoring sessions, it was discovered that some of the Connecticut papers had not been scored accurately according to the established holistic scoring criteria. This problem was identified by department staff while conducting routine post-scoring checks. Further examination of the scoring process by department staff and contractors established that a portion of the papers in grades 6 and 8 would need to be rescored. Accordingly, all grade 6 and grade 8 papers were submitted to a validation rescoring by our scoring contractor. This effort succeeded in confirming the accuracy of the initial holistic scores for the large majority of papers. Where a discrepancy was detected, the original scores were corrected to be made consistent with the established criteria.

### Analytic Scoring

All papers receiving holistic scores at or below the remedial standard of 4 also received analytic scoring in four categories (traits): focus, organization, support/elaboration and conventions. Analytic scoring is a thorough, trait-by-trait analysis of those components of a writing sample that are considered important to any piece of writing in any context. This scoring procedure can provide a comprehensive picture of a student's writing performance if enough traits are analyzed. It can identify those traits that make a piece of writing effective or ineffective. However, the traits need to be explicit and well defined so that the raters understand and agree upon the basis for making judgments about the writing sample. The analytic rating guide and sample marker papers for the analytic scoring are presented in Appendix F (p. 61).



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### Scoring of the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) Test

The DRP multiple-choice test was machine-scored by TPC. The scores reported are in DRP units. These scores identify the difficulty or readability level of prose that a student can comprehend. This makes it possible to match the difficulty of written materials with student ability. These scores can be better interpreted by referring to the readability levels of some general reading materials as shown below:

- o Elementary textbooks (grades 7 through 9) 54-65 DRP Units
- o Personality Section teen magazines 55 DRP Units
- o Adult General Interest Magazines fiction 60 DRP Units

A much more extensive list of reading materials is contained and rated in the <u>Readability Report</u>, Seventh Edition, published by The College Board.

The conversion between DRP unit scores and raw scores can be made from the tabled values obtainable through the Student Assessment and Testing Unit of the Bureau of Evaluation and Student Assessment.

### SCHOOL DISTRICT TEST RESULTS REPORTING

The CMT school district reports are designed to provide useful and comprehensive test achievement information about districts, schools and students. Four standard test reports are generated to assist superintendents, principals, teachers, parents and students to understand and use criterion-referenced test results. Appendix G (p. 67) presents samples of the district, school, class and parent/student diagnostic score reports.

### FALL 1991 STATEWIDE TEST RESULTS

The Grade 8 Connecticut Mastery Test provides a comprehensive evaluation of student performance on specific skills that Connecticut educators feel are important at the beginning of eighth grade. The mastery test's greatest instructional utility lies in its identification of areas of student weakness and strength. This report profiles the statewide results. Each school district also receives a full complement of reports that identify patterns of academic strength and weakness at the district, school, classroom and individual student levels.

Chart 1 (p. 12) gives a statewide summary of the average number of objectives mastered (mathematics and language arts), average writing and reading scores, the number of students scored, the number of students scoring at or above the remedial standard and goal (where applicable) and the percent of students scoring at or above the remedial standard and goal (where applicable).



The following are highlights of the 1991 Grade 8 CMT results:

### **MATHEMATICS**

- o Eighth graders mastered an average of 25.8 of the 36 objectives tested, up slightly from last year's figure of 25.7.
- A total of 87.8% of the students scored at or above the remedial standard, equaling last year's figure of 87.8%.
- o A total of 38.1% of the students scored at or above the mathematics goal, an increase from last year's figure of 37%.

### LANGUAGE ARTS

 Eighth graders mastered an average of 8.3 of the 11 objectives tested, down slightly from last year's figure of 8.4.

### WRITING

- o Eighth graders averaged 5.6 on a scale of 2 to 8, up slightly from last year's 5.5.
- o A total of 92.5% of the students scored at or above the remedial standard, down slightly from last year's figure of 93.2%.
- O A total of 28.4% of the students scored at or above the writing goal, an increase from last year's figure of 27%.

### READING

- Eighth graders averaged 63 units on the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) test, equaling last year's figure.
- A total of 80.5% of the students scored at or above the remedial standard, up slightly from last year's figure of 79.7%.
- O A total of 63.9% of the students scored at or above the reading goal, up from last year's figure of 62%.



### CHART 1 1991 CONNECTICUT MASTERY TEST RESULTS **GRADE 8 STATEWIDE SUMMARY**

	AVERAGE NUMBER OF OBJECTIVES	NUMBER OF STUDENTS		AT OR ABOVE STANDARD*		AT OR ABOVE
SUBJECT	MASTERED	SCORED	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
MATHEMATICS	25.8	30,586	26,864	87.8%	11,654	38.1%
LANGUAGE ARTS	8.3	30,493				
	AVERAGE HOLISTIC SCORE					
WRITING SAMPLE	5.6	30,664	28,372	92.5%	8,717	28.4%
	AVERAGE DRP UNIT SCORE					
READING	63	31,060	25,015	80.5%	19,857	63.9%

\* MATHEMATICS REMEDIAL STANDARD = 78 ITEMS CORRECT

WRITING REMEDIAL STANDARD = 4

READING REMEDIAL STANDARD = 55 DRP UNITS

\*\* MATHEMATICS GOAL = 31 OBJECTIVES MASTERED

WRITING GOAL = 7

READING GOAL = 62 DRP UNITS



### Mathematics

In mathematics, eighth graders mastered an average of 25.8 objectives, or 71.7%, of the 36 objectives tested. While the state's goal is that all students master every objective, an interim goal of 31 of the 36 objectives has been established which represents a high level of mathematics achievement. Chart 2 (p. 15) illustrates that, statewide, students demonstrated strength (85% or more students achieving mastery) in the conceptual understanding objectives of rounding whole numbers; identifying points on number lines, scales and grids; computational skills objectives involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers and decimals; and the applications objectives of using a calculator to add, subtract, multiply and divide; and interpreting graphs, tables, and charts. However, students did not perform as effectively (fewer than 50% of the students achieving mastery) on the computational skills objective of multiplying fractions and mixed numbers; and objectives that require higher-level thinking-- that is, solving problems involving measurement, measuring and determining perimeters and areas and making measurement conversions within systems.

These results indicate a consistent pattern throughout the mathematics subtests of student strengths in primarily computational skills and one-step routine applications. These strengths are offset by a pattern of student weaknesses on higher-order objectives. For example, students are consistently strong in their ability to compute with whole numbers. However, there is consistent weakness in working with fractions and mixed numbers and solving problems involving measurement and measurement conversions.

Students getting fewer than 78 questions correct on the 144-question mathematics section (12.2% of the students tested) were identified as needing further diagnosis and possible remedial instruction.

### Language Arts

In language arts, eighth-grade students averaged 8.3 objectives, or 75.5%, of the 11 objectives tested. The state's goal is that all students master every objective. Chart 3 (p. 16) illustrates that students did reasonably well on writing mechanics, study skills, and literal reading comprehension. However, weaknesses were found in the higher order objectives of inferential and evaluative reading comprehension and in listening comprehension. These results indicate that students need to learn more effective comprehension strategies while simultaneously being exposed to a wide variety of reading selections.



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In writing, eighth-grade students averaged 5.6 points on a scale of 2 through 8. The state's goal is that all students be able to produce an organized, well-supported piece of writing, that is, a holistic score of 7 or 8. Chart 4 (p. 17) illustrates that 29% of the students produced an organized, well-supported piece of writing (scores of 7 or 8), and an additional 50% produced a paper which is generally well organized (scores of 5 or 6). A total of 14% of the students scored a 4, which indicates minimally proficient writing, while the remaining 7% scored below the remedial standard (scores of 2 or 3).

In reading (Degrees of Reading Power test), eighth-grade students averaged 63 units on a scale of 15 through 99. The state's goal is that all students be able to read with high comprehension those materials typically used at the eighth grade or above; that is, at least 62 on the DRP unit scale. Chart 5 (p. 18) illustrates that 64% of the students scored at least 62 on the DRP score scale, 17% scored between 55 and 61 and 19% scored below the remedial standard of 55. The average score of 63 suggests that the typical Connecticut eighth grader can read and comprehend materials normally used up to grade eight. To improve reading performance, more emphasis needs to be placed on reading nonfiction materials during the primary and intermediate grades.

MATHEMATICS OBJECTIVES

## MATHEMATICS: PERCENT OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING MASTERY FOR EACH OBJECTIVE CHART 2

## CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS

1. ORDER FRACTIONS
2. ORDER DECIMALS
3. ROUND WHOLE NUMBERS
4. ROUND DECIMALS TO NEAREST 1, .1, .01
5. MULT/DIV WHOLE #'S & DECIMALS BY 10, 100, 1000
6. ID FRACTIONS, DECIMALS, PERCENTS FROM PICTURES
7. CONVERT FRACTIONS TO DECIMALS & VICE VERSA
8. CONVERT FRACT/DECIMALS TO PERCENTS & VICE VERSA
9. IDENTIFY POINTS ON NUMBER LINES, SCALES, GRIDS
10. IDENTIFY RATIOS AND FRACTIONAL PARTS FROM DATA
11. ID APPROP PROCEDURE FOR ESTIMATING FRACT/DEC

## COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

12. ADD AND SUBTRACT WHOLE NUMBERS < 10,000
13. MULT/DIVIDE 2- & 3-DIGIT #'S BY 1- & 2-DIGIT #'S
14. ADD AND SUBTRACT DECIMALS IN HORIZONTAL FORM
15. ID CORRECT DECIMAL POINT IN MULT/DIV OF DECIMALS
16. ADD/SUBTRACT FRACTIONS AND MIXED NUMBERS
17. MULTIPLY FRACTIONS AND MIXED NUMBERS
18. DETERMINE PERCENT OF A NUMBER
19. ESTIMATE SUMS/DIFFS OF WHOLE #'S AND DECIMALS
20. ESTIMATE PROD/QUOT OF WHOLE #'S AND DECIMALS
21. EST FRACTIONAL PARTS/PERCENTS OF WHOLE #'S & \$

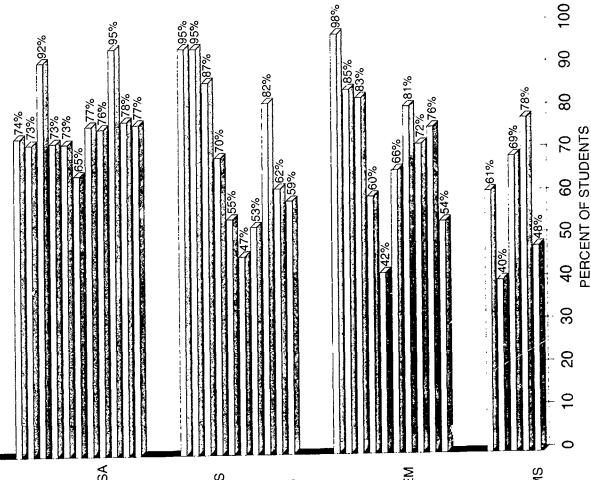
## PROBLEM SOLVING/APPLICATIONS

22. ADD/SUBT/MULT/DIV WITH A CALCULATOR
23. INTERPRET GRAPHS, TABLES, AND CHARTS
24. SOLVE 1- & 2-STEP PROBS-WHOLE #'S/DEC/AVERAGES
25. SOLVE 1- AND 2-STEP PROBLEMS-FRACTIONS
26. SOLVE PROBLEMS INVOLVING MEASUREMENT
27. SOLVE PROBLEMS INVOLVING ELEMENTARY PROBABILITY
28. ESTIMATE REASONABLE ANSWER TO A GIVEN PROBLEM
29. SOLVE PROBLEMS WITH EXTRANEOUS INFORMATION
30. IDENTIFY NEEDED INFO IN PROBLEM SITUATIONS
31. SOLVE PROCESS PROBLEMS-ÖRGANIZING DATA

## **MEASUREMENT/GEOMETRY**

32. IDENTIFY FIGURES USING GEOMETRIC TERMS
33. MEASURE AND DETERMINE PERIMETERS AND AREAS
34. ESTIMATE LENGTH/AREAVOLUME/ANGLE MEASURE
35. SELECT APPROPRIATE METRIC/CUSTOMARY UNIT
36. MAKE MEASUREMENT CONVERSIONS WITHIN SYSTEMS

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This bar chart illustrates the percent of students, statewide, who mastered each of the 36 mathematics objectives

# LANGUAGE ARTS: PERCENT OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING MASTERY FOR EACH OBJECTIVE CHART 3

### WRITING MECHANICS

- 1. CAPITALIZATION AND PUNCTUATION
- 2. SPELLING
- 3. AGREEMENT
- 4. TONE

### STUDY SKILLS

- 5. LOCATING INFORMATION
- 6. NOTETAKING AND OUTLINING

## LISTENING COMPREHENSION

LANGUAGE ARTS OBJECTIVES

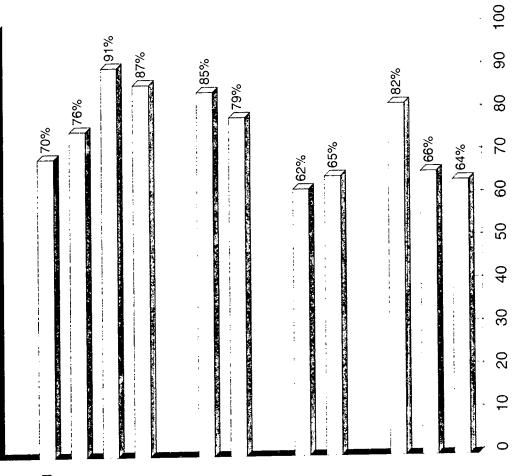
-16-

- 7. LITERAL
- 8. INFERENTIAL/EVALUATIVE

## READING COMPREHENSION

- 9. LITERAL
- 10. INFERENTIAL
- 11. EVALUATIVE

2

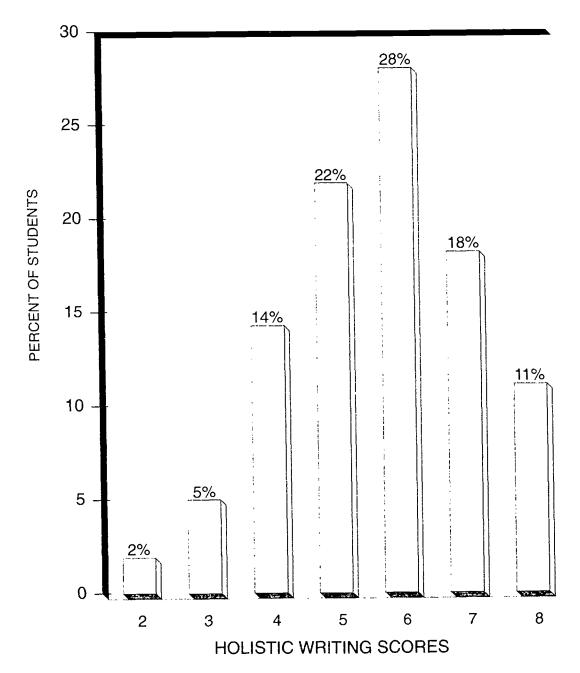


## PERCENT OF STUDENTS

20.

This bar chart illustrates the percent of students, statewide, who mastered each of the eleven language arts objectives.

### CHART 4 WRITING SAMPLE: PERCENT OF STUDENTS AT EACH SCORE POINT

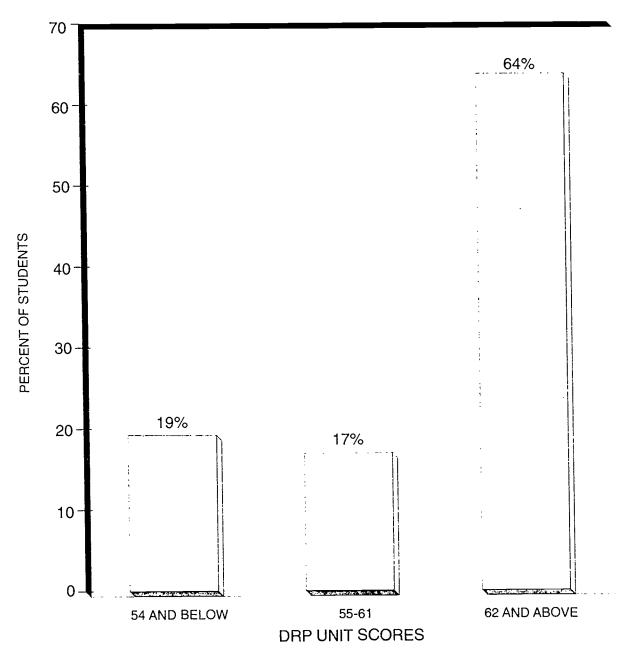


This bar chart illustrates the distribution of students who received each holistic writing score, statewide. Holistic writing scores are interpreted as follows: a student who scores 7 or 8 has produced a paper which is well written with developed supportive detail; a student who scores 5 or 6 has produced a paper which is generally well organized with supportive detail; a student who scores 4 is minimally proficient; and a student who scores 2 or 3 is in need of further diagnosis and possible remedial assistance.



-17- 2*3* 

### CHART 5. DEGREES OF READING POWER® (DRP)®: PERCENT OF STUDENTS AT SELECTED RANGES OF DRP UNIT SCORES



This bar chart illustrates the distribution of students, statewide, scoring in each of three Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) score categories. DRP score categories are interpreted as follows: a student who scores 62 DRP units or above has met the statewide Reading Goal and can read, with high comprehension, materials which are typically used at grade 8 or above; a student who scores 55-61 DRP units can read, with high comprehension, materials which are typically used below grade 8 but above the Remedial Standard; and a student who scores 54 DRP units or below is in need of further diagnosis and possible remedial assistance.



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### COMPARISON OF 1986 THROUGH 1991 TEST RESULTS

Charts 6-12 (pp. 21-27) address the comparison of the 1986 through 1991 test results. Charts 6 (p. 21), 9 (p. 24) and 10 (p. 25) present a comparison of statewide average scores on the four subtests, a comparison of the percent of students scoring at or above the remedial standard and a comparison of the percent of students scoring at or above the statewide goals, respectively. The remaining four charts provide a comparison of the percent of students achieving mastery in each mathematics objective (Chart 7, p. 22) and each language arts objective (Chart 8, p. 23), a comparison of student achievement in relation to the remedial standards (Chart 11, p. 26), and a comparison of student achievement in relation to the statewide goals (Chart 12, p. 27).

Chart 6 (p. 21) shows that the statewide average scores increased in all areas tested when 1991 results are compared to 1986 results. In mathematics, the average number of objectives mastered increased from 23.7 in 1986 to 25.8 in 1991. Mathematics scores have increased slightly each year from 1986 to 1991 indicating a positive trend. The average DRP unit score has increased two DRP unit points, moving from 61 in the initial assessment in 1986 to 63 in 1991. The average number of language arts objectives mastered has increased from 7.5 objectives in the initial 1986 assessment to 8.3 in 1991. In writing, the average holistic score has risen from 5.0 in 1986 to 5.6 in 1991.

Chart 7 (p. 22) lists the percent of students at mastery for each of the 36 mathematics objectives. From 1986 to 1991, 29 objectives have shown a gain in percent of students at or above mastery, 3 have declined and 4 are unchanged. A comparison of the 1991 and 1986 results shows large gains (at least 10 percentage points) in the percent of students meeting the mastery standard in the following objectives: ordering fractions and decimals, identifying points on number lines, scales and grids; identifying appropriate procedures for estimating fractions and decimals; identifying correct decimal point in multiplication/division of decimals; adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers; interpreting graphs, tables and charts; solving problems involving measurement; measuring and determining perimeters and areas; and making measurement conversions within systems.

Chart 8 (p. 23) lists the percent of students at mastery for each of the ll language arts objectives. From 1986 to 1991, 10 objectives have shown a gain in percent of students at or above mastery, and one objective has shown a slight decline. When 1991 results are compared with 1986, areas which showed large gains (at least 10 percentage points) in the percent of students at mastery are: spelling, agreement and tone in writing mechanics; and literal and inferential reading comprehension.

Chart 9 (p. 24) compares the percent of students who scored at or above the remedial standard in mathematics, writing and reading (DRP) for 1986 through 1991. In each content area there has been a gain in the percent of students meeting the remedial standard from 1986 to 1991. The remedial standard for mathematics is 78 out of 144 items correct. There was a 5 percentage point increase in mathematics performance at or above the remedial standard from 1986 (83%) to 1991 (88%). The remedial standard for writing is 4 on a scale from 2 to 8. A 10 percentage point increase in writing performance at or above the remedial standard occurred from 1986 (83%) to 1991 (93%). The remedial standard for reading (DRP) is 55 DRP units. An 8 percentage point increase in performance at or above the remedial standard was reported from 1986 (73%) to 1991 (81%).



Chart 10 (p. 25) compares the percent of students scoring at or above the statewide goals in mathematics, writing and reading from 1986 through 1991. There has been a gain in the percent of students reaching the statewide goal in each of the three content areas over the six CMT administrations. In mathematics, the goal is 31 of 36 objectives mastered. There was an 11 percentage point increase in performance at or above the statewide goal from 1986 (27%) to 1991 (38%). In writing, the goal is 7 on a scale of 2 to 8. The percent of students scoring at or above the statewide standard increased from 20% in 1986 to 28% in 1991. In reading (DRP) the statewide goal is 62 DRP units with 80% comprehension. There was a 7 percentage point increase in performance at or above the goal from 1986 (57%) to 1991 (64%).

Chart 11 (p. 26) is a comparison of student achievement in relation to the remedial standards in 1986 through 1991. Over the six-year period, the percent of students at or above the remedial standard on all three tests (mathematics, reading, writing) has increased from 62.3% in 1986 to 72.5% in 1991, while the percent of students below the remedial standard on all three tests has declined from 6.2% in 1986 to 2.3% in 1991. The percent of students below the remedial standard on one or more subtests has also dropped from 36.3% in 1986 to 25.5% in 1991.

Chart 12 (p. 27) is a comparison of student achievement in relation to the goals for 1986 through 1991. Over the six-year period, there has been an increase in the percent of students reaching the statewide goal on all three tests (mathematics, reading, and writing), while the percent of students below the statewide goal on all three tests has declined from 38.2% in 1986 to 28.0 in 1991. The percent of students above the statewide goal on one or more subtests has increased from 60.0% in 1986 to 69.4% in 1991.

### Test Results by District

Appendices H and I address the comparison of test scores by school district. Appendix H (p. 81) and Appendix I (p. 89) present a listing of the mathematics and language arts test results, respectively, for each Connecticut school district. In each appendix, school districts are listed alphabetically, followed by regional school districts. The Type of Community (TOC) designation in the second column and the Education Reference Group (ERG) designation in the third column indicate the TOC and ERG groups with which each district or school has been classified. Definitions of the TOC and ERG classifications are provided in Appendix J (p. 97) and Appendix K (p. 99), respectively. TOC and ERG summaries follow the alphabetical listings of school district results in mathematics and language arts.

The State Department of Education advises against comparing scores between and among school districts. It is more meaningful to compare district results longitudinally within each district. It is also not appropriate or meaningful to sum across the different tests and subtests for comparative purposes because of differences in test length, mastery criteria and remedial standards. These comparisons are inappropriate because it is impossible to identify, solely on the basis of this information, how the average student has performed in the districts being compared. Average scores and standard deviations provide more appropriate comparative information on how well the average student is performing, although many factors may affect the comparability of these statistics as well.



COMPARISON OF STATEWIDE AVERAGE SCORES FOR 1986 THROUGH 1991 1991 1991 1990 1990 LANGUAGE ARTS 1989 1989 8.0 63 READING 1988 1988 8 1987 1987 82 1986 1986 99 40 30 8 AVERAGE NUMBER OF OBJECTIVES MASTERED AVERAGE DRP UNIT SCORE 1991 1991 25.8 Ċ. 1990 1990 5.5 25. MATHEMATICS 1989 1989 25.3 5.5 WRITING 1988 1988 S. 1987 1987 5.2 1986 5.0 ġ ω 9 S က 36 30 ω ဖ AVERAGE HOLISTIC SCORE AVERAGE NUMBER OF OBJECTIVES MASTERED

### CHART 7 MATHEMATICS: COMPARISON OF THE PERCENT OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING MASTERY IN EACH OBJECTIVE FOR 1986 THROUGH 1991

OBJECTIVE		PERC	ENTAGE (		ENTS		PERCENTAGE POINT GAIN FROM 1986 TO 1991
	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	
CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS							
1. ORDER FRACTIONS	58°。	57%	57°。	69%	73%	74°。	16%
2. ORDER DECIMALS	58°。	63%	65%	61°₀	73°。	73%	15%
3. ROUND WHOLE NUMBERS	87°。	85%	86°。	89%	92%	92%	5%
4. ROUND DECIMALS TO NEAREST 1, .1, .01	66%	71%	72%	67%	74%	73%	7%
5 MULT/DIV WHOLE #'S & DECIMALS BY 10, 100, 1000	67°。	75%	75%	73%	75%	73°,₀	6%
6. ID FRACTIONS, DECIMALS, PERCENTS FROM PICTURES	58%	58°°	58%	55%	63%	65%	7° <b>。</b>
7. CONVERT FRACTIONS TO DECIMALS & VICE VERSA	74%	70°。	71%	74°。	77%	77%	3°₀
8. CONVERT FRACT/DECIMALS TO PERCENTS & VICE VERSA	72%	78%	78%。	80%	75%	76%	4°°
9. IDENTIFY POINTS ON NUMBER LINES, SCALES, GRIDS	85%	91%	91%	95°₀	95%	95°。	10°°
10. IDENTIFY RATIOS AND FRACTIONAL PARTS FROM DATA	85° <b>.</b>	85° <b>。</b>	85%	95°e	78%	78%	-7%
11, ID APPROP PROCEDURE FOR ESTIMATING FRACT/DEC	64°。	78⁰₀	80%	70°6	76 <b>°。</b>	77%	13%
COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS							
12. ADD AND SUBTRACT WHOLE NUMBERS < 10.000	94°•	96°。	96%	95°。	96%	95°•	1°°
13. MULT/DIVIDE 2- & 3-DIGIT # S BY 1- & 2-DIGIT # S	95°•	96°。	96%	96°•	96%	95°。	0°•
14 ADD AND SUBTRACT DECIMALS IN HORIZONTAL FORM	89°.	85°°	85°。	88°。	87°°	87°•	-2°•
15 ID CORRECT DECIMAL POINT IN MULT/DIV OF DECIMALS	60°。	76⁰.₀	75°。	73°。	72%	70%	10°•
16. ADD/SUBTRACT FRACTIONS AND MIXED NUMBERS	39⁵∘	49°•	49°。	48°。	56°•	55%	16°°
17 MULTIPLY FRACTIONS AND MIXED NUMBERS	44°0	51°。	49%	47°。	49°。	47°°	3°°
18. DETERMINE PERCENT OF A NUMBER	49%	54%	53°。	54°。	53%	53°•	4°°0
19 ESTIMATE SUMS/DIFFS OF WHOLE #'S AND DECIMALS	78°。	77%	78°。	87°•	81%	82%	4°°
20. ESTIMATE PROD/QUOT OF WHOLE #'S AND DECIMALS	69%	70°°	70°•	72%	62 <b>%</b>	62%	-7°0
21. EST FRACTIONAL PARTS/PERCENTS OF WHOLE #'S & \$	51%	54°c	54%	53%	58%	59%	8%
PROBLEM SOLVING/APPLICATIONS							
22 ADD/SUBT/MULT/DIV WITH A CALCULATOR	98%	99%	98%	98°。	98°•	98°。	0%
23 INTERPRET GRAPHS, TABLES, AND CHARTS	67%	76°。	76%	81%	84%	85%	18°.
24. SOLVE 1- & 2-STEP PROBS-WHOLE #'S/DEC/AVERAGES	78%	74°°	75°°	75%	82°•	83°•	5%
25 SOLVE 1- AND 2-STEP PROBLEMS-FRACTIONS	54°6	51°。	51%	53°•	60%	60%	6%
26. SOLVE PROBLEMS INVOLVING MEASUREMENT	31°•	32°。	32%	33°•	40%	42%	11%
27. SOLVE PROBS INVOLVING ELEMENTARY PROBABILITY	61°•	62%	63%	60°•	65%	66%	5%
28. ESTIMATE REASONABLE ANSWER TO A GIVEN PROBLEM	76%	81%	80°•	83%	80%	81%	5%
29 SOLVE PROBLEMS WITH EXTRANEOUS INFORMATION	70%	72°。	73°•	78%	71%	72°.	2°•
30. IDENTIFY NEEDED INFO IN PROBLEM SITUATIONS	76%	79%	79%	83%	75°•	76%	0%
31. SOLVE PROCESS PROBLEMS-ORGANIZING DATA	46°•	53%	53%	55°•	54%	54%	8%
MEASUREMENT/GEOMETRY				[			
32 IDENTIFY FIGURES USING GEOMETRIC TERMS	57°•	66°。	66%	64%	61° <sub>0</sub>	61%	4%
33. MEASURE AND DETERMINE PERIMETERS AND AREAS	30°6	40%	41%	37°6	39%	40°°	10°°
34 ESTIMATE LENGTH/AREA/VOLUME/ANGLE MEASURE	63°。	69°°	71°a	71°0	69°•	69°•	6°°
35. SELECT APPROPRIATE METRIC/CUSTOMARY UNIT	78°。	81°°	82%	76°•	78°•	78%	٥°٠
36 MAKE MEASUREMENT CONVERSIONS WITHIN SYSTEMS	32°	42°。	43°°	43°.	48%	48°•	16°°

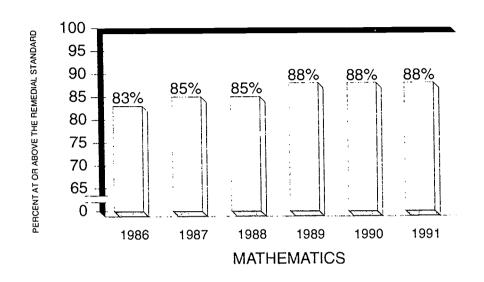


### CHART 8 LANGUAGE ARTS: COMPARISON OF THE PERCENT OF STUDENTS ACHIEVING MASTERY IN EACH OBJECTIVE FOR 1986 THROUGH 1991

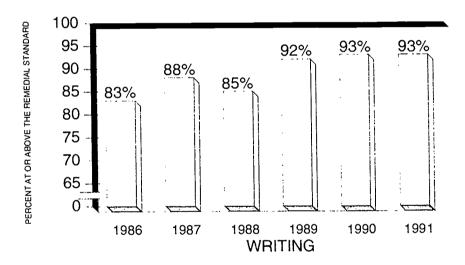
	PE			•		PERCENTAGE POINT GAIN FROM 1986 TO 1991
1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	
72%	70%	71%	73%	72%	70%	-2%
66%	63%	63%	58%	76%	76°°	10%
76%	81%	81%	79%	92%	91%	15%
77%	69%	70%	70%	88%	87°•	10%
83%	88°%	87%∘	89%	85%	85%	2%
73%	71%	71%	78%	79%	79%	6%
59%	68°;	67%	78%	63°。	62°6	3°₀
62%	66%	66%	67%	66°÷	65%	3%
70°。	75%	75%	79%	82%	82%	12%
54%	57%	58%	58%	66%	66%	12%
57%	61%	62%	66%	64%	64%	7%
	72% 66% 76% 77% 83% 73% 59% 62%	1986 1987  72% 70%  66% 63%  76° 81%  77% 69%  83% 88° 71%  59% 68%  62% 66%  70° 75° 54% 57° 6	1986 1987 1988 72% 70% 71% 66% 63% 63% 81% 77% 69% 70% 70% 71% 69% 70% 71% 71% 71% 71% 71% 71% 71% 62% 66% 66% 66% 66% 54% 57% 58%	1986 1987 1988 1989  72% 70% 71% 73% 66% 63% 63% 58% 76% 81% 81% 79% 77% 69% 70% 70%  83% 88% 87% 89% 73% 71% 71% 78%  59% 68% 67% 78% 62% 66% 66% 67%  70% 75% 75% 75% 79% 54% 57% 58% 58%	1986       1987       1988       1989       1990         72%       70%       71%       73%       72%         66%       63%       63%       58%       76%         76%       81%       79%       92%         77%       69%       70%       70%       88%         83%       88%       87%       89%       85%         73%       71%       71%       78%       79%         59%       68%       67%       78%       63%         62%       66%       66%       67%       66%         70%       75%       75%       79%       82%         54%       57%       58%       58%       66%	1986



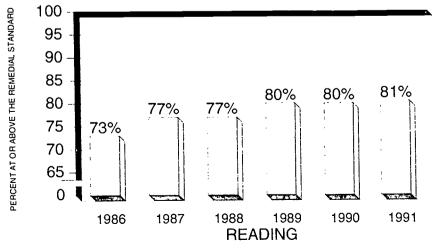
### CHART 9 COMPARISON OF THE PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING AT OR ABOVE THE REMEDIAL STANDARD IN EACH SUBJECT AREA FOR 1986 THROUGH 1991



MATHEMATICS GROWTH SINCE 1986 5%



WRITING GROWTH SINCE 1986 10%

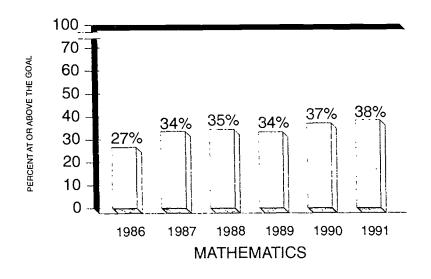


READING GROWTH SINCE 1986 8%



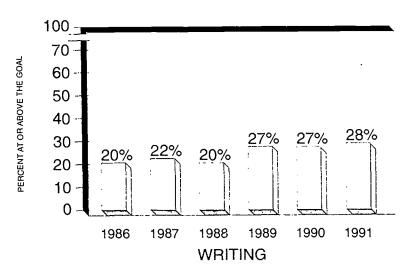
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### CHART 10 COMPARISON OF THE PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING AT OR ABOVE THE GOAL IN EACH SUBJECT AREA FOR 1986 THROUGH 1991



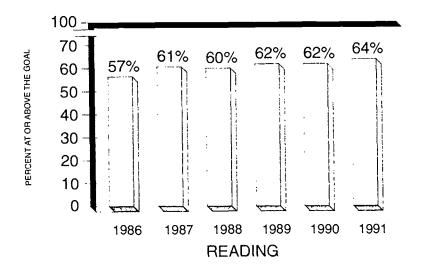
MATHEMATICS GROWTH SINCE 1986 11%

MATHEMATICS GOAL IS 31 OF 36 OBJECTIVES MASTERED



WRITING GROWTH SINCE 1986 8%

WRITING GOAL IS 7 ON A SCALE OF 2 TO 8



READING GROWTH SINCE 1986 7%

READING GOAL IS 62 DRP UNITS WITH 80% COMPREHENSION



# CHART 11 COMPARISON OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN RELATION TO THE REMEDIAL STANDARDS 1986 THROUGH 1991 ADMINISTRATIONS

	•											
	NUMBER PERCENT	PERCENT	NUMBER PERCENT	PERCENT	19 NUMBER	1988 PERCENT	19 NUMBER	1989 R PERCENT	19 NUMBER	1990 R PERCENT	1991 NUMBER P	91 PERCENT
STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE THE STANDARD:								!			ļ	
ON ALL THREE TESTS	19.233	62.3	20,466	67.5	19,727	66.0	20.987	72.0	22.334	72.9	22.858	72.5
ON TWO OF THE TESTS	5.695	185	5.204	17.2	5.459	183	4.570	15.7	4.669	15.2	4.628	14.7
ON ONE OF THE TESTS	3.576	116	3.137	10 4	3,147	10.5	2.595	8.9	2.694	89. 89.	2.848	0.6
ON NONE OF THE TESTS	2.345	9 2	1.502	5.0	1.539	52	1.003	3.4	096	3.1	1,193	3.8
STUDENTS BELOW THE STANDARD:	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT
ON ALL THREE TESTS	1.914	62	1.248	4 ~~	1 241	4 2	754	26	733	24	718	2.3
ON TWO OF THE TESTS	3 548	11 5	3.028	10 0	3.059	10.2	2 470	8.5	2.532	8.3	2.681	85
ON ONE OF THE TESTS	5 729	186	5.169	17.1	5,487	18 4	4.574	15.7	4.652	15.2	4.652	14.8
ON NONE OF THE TESTS	19.658	637	20.864	68 8	20.085	67.2	21.357	73.3	22.740	74.2	23.476	74.5
NUMBER OF STUDENTS TESTED	30.849		30.309		29.872		29.155		30,657		31 527	
NUMBER OF STUDENTS BELOW REMEDIAL STANDARD ON ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS (UNDUPLICATED COUNT)	191 191	363	9,445	312	9 787	328	7.798	792	7.9.7	25.8	8.051	25.5
												5



#### 4 (/)

CHART 12 COMPARISON OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN RELATION TO THE GOALS 1986 THROUGH 1991 ADMINISTRATIONS

ERIC Full Text Provided by ERIC

										***************************************		
	1986 NUMBER PE	36 PERCENT	1987 NUMBER PI	97 PERCENT	1988 NUMBER PE	38 PERCENT	1989 NUMBER PE	99 PERCENT	1990 NUMBER PE	90 PERCENT	1991 NUMBER P	PERCENT
STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE THE STATE GOAL:												
ON ALL THREE TESTS	3.214	10.4	3 858	127	3,545	11 9	4,341	14.9	4.899	160	4.855	15.4
ON TWO OF THE T? "TS	6 578	21.3	7.768	256	7.493	25.1	7.036	24.1	7.953	259	8.730	27.7
ON ONE OF THE TESTS	8.715	28 3	8.104	26 7	8,030	56.9	7.851	26.9	7.597	24.8	8,279	263
ON NONE OF THE TESTS	12.342	40 0	10.579	34.9	10.804	36.2	9,927	340	10.208	33 3	9,663	30.6
STUDENTS BELOW THE STATE GOAL:	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT								
ON ALL THRE 3TS	11,770	38 2	9.833	32 4	10.334	34.6	9.167	31 4	9.601	313	8.823	28.0
ON TWO OF THE TESTS	9.047	293	8.834	29.1	8.315	27.8	8.556	293	8.129	265	8.506	27.0
ON ONE OF THE TESTS	6.780	22 0	7.776	25 7	7,650	25 6	7,091	24.3	7.996	26.1	9.061	287
ON NONE OF THE TESTS	3 252	105	3 866	12 8	3.573	12.0	4.341	14.9	4.931	16.1	5.137	16.3
NUMBER OF STUDENTS TESTED	30 849		30.309		29.872		29 155		30.657		31.527	
NUMBER OF STUDENTS ABOVE GOAL ON ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS (UNDUPLICATED COUNT)	18.507	0 09	19 730	65.1	19.068	63 8	19.228	0 99	20.449	299	21.864	69 4

#### Normative Results

Normative information is provided to indicate how well the average student in Connecticut performs compared to a national sample of students. Norms have been available for the mathematics test, the language arts test and the reading comprehension test since 1987. This year, for the second year, normative information is also being provided for mathematics problem solving. These norms are based on links established between the CMT and the sixth edition of the Metropolitan Achievement Test (MAT-6). The norms are expressed in percentile ranks which provide estimates of group performance relative to the performance of the national MAT-6 norm group. Percentile ranks range from 1 to 99. A percentile rank of 50 represents the score that divides the norm group into two equal parts; half scoring below and half scoring above this value. Each reported percentile rank represents the performance of a nationally representative sample of students in relation to Connecticut student performance.

The following are the estimated norms for the grade eight statewide averages. In the content areas of total mathematics, language arts and reading comprehension (not DRP), data are provided for the 1987 through 1991 administrations. Normative information in the content area of mathematics problem solving is presented for the 1990 and 1991 administrations only.

#### Grade Eight

	<u> 1987</u>	<u> 1988</u>	<u> 1989</u>	<u> 1990</u>	1991
Total Mathematics	67	67	67	68	68
Language Arts	67	69	69	69	65
Reading Comprehension	57	57	59	61	59
Mathematics Problem Solving				64	68

Patterns in the data are summarized below.

- o In each content area, the mean national percentile rankings of Connecticut students substantially exceed the national average (50th percentile rank).
- o The norms for mathematics and language arts have remained similar over the five years with percentile ranks ranging from 65 to 69 in value. Reading comprehension performance is lower than either mathematics or language arts when compared to a national sample, with percentile ranks ranging from 57 to 61 over the five administrations.
- The percentile ranks within each content area are quite stable across the five years, differing in value by no more than four points.

It should be pointed out that these norms provide a way to interpret the performance of the average Connecticut student relative to a national sample. They do not address the issue of how Connecticut, as a state, compares to other states. The fact that, in 1991, the average Connecticut student is at the 68th percentile in mathematics does not mean that the state as a whole would be in the 68th percentile if it were compared to other states. A state-by-state achievement testing program has been endorsed by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the National Governors' Association



(NGA) and is in progress using the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Program. Connecticut participated in the 1990 trial state assessment for mathematics at grade eight. Results of this assessment were released June 6, 1991 at a national press conference in Washington, D.C. In addition, Connecticut participated in the 1992 trial state assessment in grades four and eight.

#### Norms Available to Districts

Total mathematics, language arts, reading comprehension, and mathematics problem solving norms can also be provided for groups of students at the district level. Each year all districts are notified by the CMT contractor that norms for their own districts and/or schools within their districts are optionally available. In addition, districts are offered all materials and directions to hand-calculate norms for groups of students within their districts (e.g., Chapter I students). There is no charge for either of these services. Any district that requests this information receives it directly from the CMT contractor. No district receives normative information unless it is specifically requested by the superintendent. Approximately one half of Connecticut school districts have requested norms in the past.

#### Longitudinal Results

In order to interpret student performance across grade levels, vertical scales were developed in the areas of mathematics and reading comprehension. Scaled scores can be used to measure growth over time because CMT scores from all three grade levels have been placed on a common scale. These scales provide a means of monitoring students' academic progress from grade to grade. Before the scales were developed, it was difficult to assess the performance of groups of test takers as they moved from grade to grade because of differences in test length, curriculum content covered and levels of difficulty on the fourth-, sixth- and eighth-grade tests.

Since students who took the fourth-grade test in 1986 subsequently took the sixth-grade test in 1988 and the eighth-grade test in 1990, change in performance on the test can be assessed across four years' time for the group. Similarly, change in performance can be assessed for 1991 eighth graders who took the grade four test in 1987 and the grade six test in 1989. Chart 13 (p.30) and Chart 14 (p.31) present overall growth in performance for these students in the content areas of mathematics and reading comprehension, respectively. These results show meaningful growth in both mathematics and reading comprehension for the groups of students from grade four to grade six and from grade six to grade eight. Chart 13, for example, shows that the average statewide performance in mathematics, for the group of students who took the fourth-grade test in 1986, the sixth-grade test in 1988 and the eighth-grade test in 1990, has moved in a positive direction. While initial results are encouraging, it is premature to draw definitive conclusions about how much growth to expect as students progress from grade to grade. Such conclusions are possible only after the program has been in effect for several years. It should be noted that each eighth-grade group differs, to some extent, from its respective sixth-grade group and that each sixth-grade group differs from its respective fourth-grade group because some students entered. while other students exited the Connecticut public school system over the years.

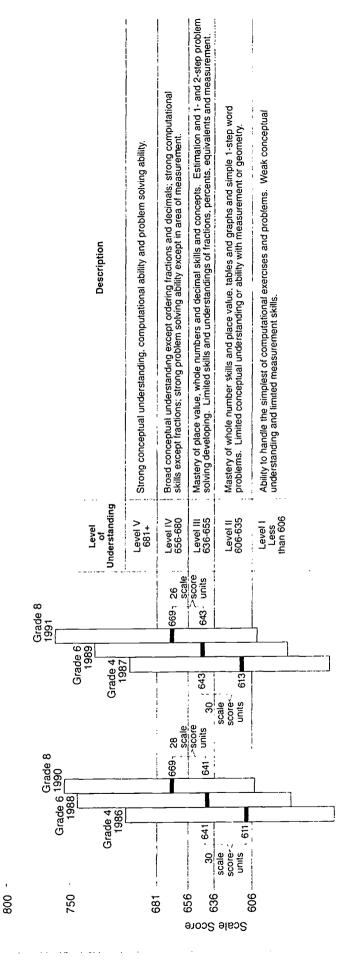


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## MATHEMATICS (GRADE 4 TO GRADE 6 TO GRADE 8) CHART 13

Comparison of Average Statewide Mathematics Performance Grade 4 (1986 Administration) to Grade 8 (1987 Administration) and Grade 4 (1987 Administration) to Grade 6 (1989 Administration) to Grade 8 (1991 Administration) Using Scale Scores

Results for 1986 Grade 4 Cohort (Class of 1995) and 1987 Grade 4 Cohort (Class of 1996)



Approx. 95% of Mathematics

Average Statewide Performance

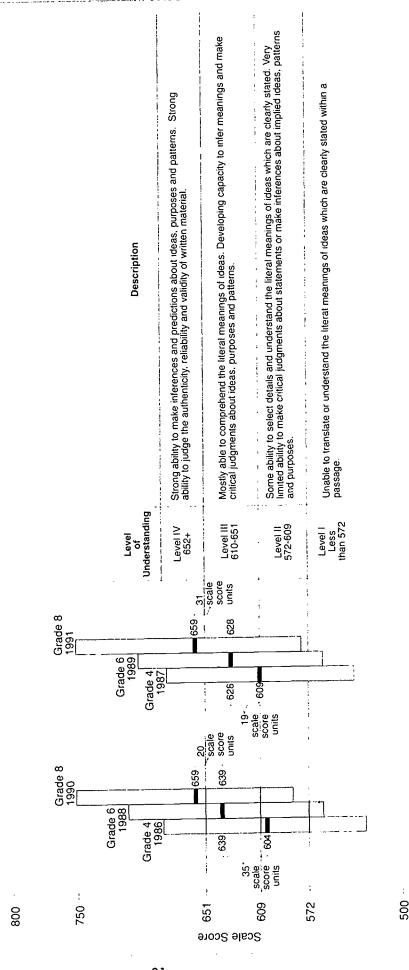
200



# READING COMPREHENSION (GRADE 4 TO GRADE 6 TO GRADE 8) CHART 14

Comparison of Average Statewide Reading Performance Grade 4 (1986 Administration) to Grade 8 (1990 Administration) and Grade 4 (1987 Administration) to Grade 6 (1989 Administration) to Grade 8 (1991 Administration) Using Scale Scores

Results for 1986 Grade 4 Cohort (Class of 1995) and 1987 Grade 4 Cohort (Class of 1996)



40

Approx. 95% of Reading Scores

Average Statewide Performance

#### Participation Rate Results

Appendix L (p. 103) presents the number of eighth-grade students in each district and the percents of students who participated in the grade eight mastery testing during the fall 1991 statewide administration. Appendix L also shows the percent of students exempted from CMT testing. The alphabetical listing of districts provides the following information for each district:

Column	1	The name of the district
Column	2	The total eighth-grade population at the start of mastery
		testing
Column	3	The number of students eligible for testing
Column	4	The percent of total population exempted from testing
Columns	5~8	The percent of eligible students tested in each content
		area

The results in Appendix L illustrate that participation rates by school district on the eighth-grade CMT were quite high, with only a few exceptions. However, the high percentage of students exempted from the CMT, statewide, combined with the large variation in exemption rates among districts, has raised concerns about the fair application of exemption procedures and its impact on students. The Department has examined the impact of the exclusion provisions on the CMT programs for Special Education and bilingual students. The results from these analyses are available from the Division of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment.



APPENDIX A
Test Construction



#### Test Construction

The development of the eighth-grade criterion-referenced mastery test required the formation of seven statewide advisory committees. These included the Mathematics and Language Arts Advisory Committees, the Psychometrics Advisory Committee, the Bias Advisory Committee, the Connecticut Student Assessment Advisory Committee (formerly the Mastery Test Implementation Advisory Committee), and two standard-setting committees, one for mathematics and one for language arts. These committees were comprised of representatives from throughout the state. Members were selected for their area of expertise. Approximately 150 Connecticut educators participated on the mastery test committees which met over 80 times during the first 18 months of test development. (See Acknowledgements, p. v and p. 48.)

Beginning in the spring of 1985, content committees in both language arts and mathematics participated in each stage of the test development process, including assisting the State Department of Education in the selection of The Psychological Corporation as its test contractor. First, the content committees reviewed the curriculum materials prevalent throughout the state and the scope of the national tests in use in Connecticut at the respective grade levels. Additional resources included the Connecticut curriculum guides in mathematics and language arts, developed in 1981, as well as the results of recent Connecticut Assessment of Educational Progress (CAEP) assessments in mathematics and language arts. Next, the committees identified sets of preliminary mathematics and language arts objectives which reflected existing curriculum materials and the goals of the mastery testing program. The content committees defined an objective as an operationalized learning outcome that was fairly narrow and clearly defined.

Four criteria were used in identifying the appropriate learning outcomes or test objectives and in selecting specific test items to be included on the Grade 8 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT). To have been considered for use, test objectives and items must have been:

- (1) significant and important;
- (2) developmentally appropriate;
- (3) reasonable for most students to achieve; and
- (4) generally representative of what is taught in Connecticut schools.

Once the objectives were identified, item specifications and/or sample items were written. Item specifications are written descriptions of the types and forms of test items that assess an objective. They also prescribe the types of answer choices that can be used with each item.

After the test specifications were written and agreed upon, the test contractor wrote items and response choices for each of the objectives. The items were then reviewed by the content committees. Items which met the criteria of the test specifications and received the approval of the content committees were considered for the pilot test. Before testing, the Bias Advisory Committee reviewed each item for potential discrimination related to gender, race, or ethnicity in the language or format of the question or response choices. After their review was completed, the pilot test forms were constructed. Over 1,600 customized Connecticut items were included in the October 1985 grade eight pilot test in language arts and mathematics.



The Psychometrics Advisory Committee provided advice concerning other aspects of the pilot test including the sampling design, statistical bias analysis, the design of item specifications and pilot test administration procedures. The recommendations proposed by the Psychometrics Advisory Committee were reviewed and endorsed by the Connecticut Student Assessment Advisory Committee.

#### Pilot Tests

After the items had been reviewed, twelve test forms (six in mathematics, and six in language arts) were piloted for the grade eight test. The purpose of several pilot test forms was to ensure that enough test items were included to construct three comparable test forms from the pilot test results.

Over 8,000 grade eight students participated in the October 1985 pilot test. In January 1986, the pilot test results were made available to Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) staff. The process of selecting items to construct three comparable test forms began by the Bias Advisory Committee examining the pilot test statistics of each item for potential bias. As a result, some items were eliminated from the item pool. From the remaining items, test forms were constructed to be equivalent in content and difficulty at both the objective and total test levels.

Once the items were sorted on this basis, the test contractor prepared three complete forms of the mathematics test and two complete forms of the language arts test. These forms were approved by the content committees. Each form was created to be equal in difficulty and test length. A third language arts test was constructed after a few additional items were piloted as part of a later test administration. Later, during subsequent CMT administrations, enough items were pilot tested to yield two additional test forms. The psychometric procedures used to construct each of these test forms focused primarily on the use of the one-parameter item response model.

#### Survey

In October 1985, a survey of preliminary grade eight mastery test objectives was sent to over 4,000 Connecticut educators. The purpose of the survey was to determine (1) the importance of the proposed mathematics and reading/language arts objectives, and (2) whether the objectives were taught prior to the beginning of grade eight. Approximately a 45% response rate was achieved which included approximately one—third of the respondents representing urban school districts. Thirty—six out of the original thirty—seven mathematics objectives were judged to be important learning skills.



### $\label{eq:APPENDIX B} \mbox{ Grade Eight Mathematics Objectives}$



#### Grade Eight Mathematics Objectives

The 36 objectives of the eighth-grade mathematics test are listed below. There are four test items for each objective. The number of items in each domain is indicated in the parentheses.

#### CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS (44)

- 1. Order fractions
- 2. Order decimals
- 3. Round whole numbers
- 4. Round decimals to the nearest whole number, tenth and hundredth
- 5. Multiply and divide whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1,000
- 6. Identify fractions, decimals and percents from pictorial representations
- 7. Convert fractions to decimals and vice versa
- 8. Convert fractions and decimals to percents and vice versa
- 9. Identify points on number lines, scales and grids
- 10. Identify ratios and fractional parts from given data
- Identify an appropriate procedure for making estimates with decimals and fractions

#### COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS (40)

- 12. Add and subtract whole numbers less than 10,000
- 13. Multiply and divide 2- and 3-digit whole numbers by 1- and 2-digit numbers
- 14. Add and subtract decimals (to hundredths) in horizontal form
- 15. Identify the correct placement of the decimal point in multiplication and division of decimals
- 16. Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers
- 17. Multiply fractions and mixed numbers
- 18. Determine the percent of a number
- 19. Estimate sums and differences of whole numbers and decimals including making change
- 20. Estimate products and quotients of whole numbers and decimals
- 21. Estimate fractional parts and percents of whole numbers and money amounts

#### PROBLEM SOLVING/APPLICATIONS (with calculators available) (40)

- 22. Compute sums, differences, products and quotients using a calculator
- 23. Interpret graphs, tables and charts
- 24. Solve 1- and 2-step problems involving whole numbers and decimals, including averaging
- 25. Solve 1- and 2-step problems involving fractions
- 26. Solve problems involving measurement
- 27. Solve problems involving elementary probability
- 28. Estimate a reasonable answer to a given problem
- 29. Solve problems with extraneous information
- 30. Identify needed information in problem situations
- 31. Solve process problems involving the organization of data



#### MEASUREMENT/GEOMETRY (20)

- 32. Identify figures using geometric terms
  33. Measure and determine perimeters and areas
  34. Estimate lengths, areas, volumes and angle measures
  35. Select appropriate metric or customary units and measures
- 36. Make measurement conversions within systems

Performa ce on all 36 math objectives is reported at the student, classroom, school, district and state levels.



## APPENDIX C Grade Eight Language Arts Objectives



#### Grade Eight Language Arts Objectives

There are eleven language arts objectives and two holistic measures, one for reading and one for writing, within the eighth-grade language arts test. The number of items for each content area or objective is indicated in the parentheses.

#### WRITING MECHANICS (39)

- Capitalization and Punctuation (12)
- 2. Spelling (8)
- 3. Agreement (15)
- 4. Tone (4)

#### STUDY SKILLS (16)

- 5. Locating Information (12)
- 6. Note-taking and Outlining (4)

#### LISTENING COMPREHENSION (20)

- 7. Literal (4)
- 8. Inferential and Evaluative (16)

#### READING COMPREHENSION (36)

- 9. Literal (8)
- 10. Inferential (14)
- 11. Evaluative (14)

#### DEGREES OF READING POWER (77)

#### WRITING SAMPLE (1)

Holistic scoring is provided for all students. Analytic scoring is provided for students who score at or below the remedial standard of 4 (on a scale of 2-8).

Performance on all eleven Language Arts objectives, the Degrees of Reading Power and the Writing Sample is reported at the student, classroom, school, district and state levels.



#### APPENDIX D

Remedial (Grant) Standard-Setting Process

and

Standard-Setting Committees



#### Remedial (Grant) Standard-Setting Process

#### Background

There are several acceptable strategies for setting standards on criterion-referenced tests. Each of the proposed methods has one or more unique characteristics. One common element to the various methods is that they all offer to the individuals who are setting the standards some process which reduces the arbitrariness of the resulting standard. Different methods accomplish this in different ways. All methods systematize the standard-setting process so that the result accurately reflects the collective informed judgment of those setting the standard.

#### Types of Standard-Setting Methods

Standard-setting methods can generally be categorized into three types: test question review, individual performance review and group performance review. Test question review methods specify a procedure for standard setters to examine each test question and make a judgment about that question. For example, standard setters might be asked to rate the difficulty or the importance of each question. These judgments are then combined mathematically to produce a standard. Individual performance review methods also require standard setters to make judgments, but the judgments are made on the basis of examining data that indicate how well individual students perform on test items. These data may be based on actual pilot test results or projected results using mathematical theories. In this method, additional student information, such as grades, may also be used to inform the standard setters. Group performance review methods provide for judgments to be made based on the performance of a reference group of students. That is, standard setters review the group performance and make a determination where the standard should be set based on the group results.

#### Selection of a Standard-Setting Method

Several factors affect the choice of a particular standard-setting method. The type of test is one consideration. For example, some methods are only appropriate for multiple-choice questions or for single correct answer questions while other methods are more flexible. For example, time constraints are a consideration if student performance data are necessary. In this case, a pilot test must be conducted and the test results must be analyzed prior to setting the standards. Another consideration is the relative importance of the decisions that will be made on the basis of the standard. For example, a classroom test affecting only a few students would not require as stringent a procedure as would a statewide test determining whether a student is allowed to graduate from high school. Other relevant factors include the number of test items, permanence of the standard, purpose of the test and the extent of available financial and other resources to support the standard-setting process.



On February 4, 1985, the Mastery Test Psychometrics Committee met to consider the issue of standard-setting procedures and voted unanimously to approve the following proposal.

#### A PROPOSAL FOR SETTING THE REMEDIAL STANDARDS ON THE CONNECTICUT MASTERY TESTS

- 1. Two standard-setting committees will be created: one for mathematics and one for reading and writing.
- 2. This description of a minimally proficient student will be given to each of the committees:

Imagine a student who is just proficient enough in reading, writing and mathematics to successfully participate in his/her regular eighth-grade coursework.

3.a. In mathematics, an adaptation of the Angoff procedure will be used. The committee will be provided with each item appearing on one form of the mathematics test. The committee will be given the following directions:

Consider a group of 100 of these students who are just proficient enough to be successful in regular eighth-grade coursework. How many of them would be expected to correctly answer each of the questions?

The committee will rate each item. The committee will then be given the opportunity to discuss their rating of each item. Sample pilot data will be presented. Committee members will be given the opportunity to adjust their item ratings. The item ratings will then be averaged in accordance with the Angoff procedure in order to produce a recommended test standard.

- b. In reading, the committee will review and discuss each passage of the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) test. Student performance data will be presented. The committee will consider the reading difficulty that should be expected of a student at the grade level being tested. The committee members will identify the passage that has the appropriate level of reading difficulty consistent with the above description of a minimally proficient student.
- c. In writing, the committee will read four sample essays. These essays will have been prescored holistically (on a scale from 2 to 8) in order to rank the quality of the essays. Committee members will classify essays into one of three categories: 1) definitely NOT proficient,

  2) borderline and 3) definitely proficient. These classifications will be discussed in light of the holistic scores. The committee will then classify approximately twenty-five additional essays. The essay ratings will be discussed in the same manner as the original four essays. When all essays have been discussed, the essays which fell in the borderline category will be focused upon to determine the standard. The committee will determine where, among the borderline essays, the standard should be established.
- 4. The standards recommended in step 3 will be presented to the Connecticut Student Assessment Advisory Committee (formerly the Mastery Test Implementation Advisory Committee) for discussion and action.



#### Connecticut's Strategy

Several steps were employed to create an acceptable and valid test standard for Connecticut tests. Initially, a separate standard-setting committee was convened for each test on which standards were to be set. Individuals were chosen to serve as members on the committee on the basis of their familiarity with the area being assessed and the nature of the examinees. One source of such members was the test content committees related to the project. For example, members of the Mathematics Advisory Committee were represented on the committee setting standards for the mathematics mastery test.

The actual procedures used to set standards were an adaptation of a method proposed by William Angoff (1970). This test question review method required members of a standard-setting committee to estimate the probability that a question would be correctly answered by examinees who possess no more than the minimally acceptable knowledge or skill in the areas being assessed. Standard setters then reviewed pilot test data for sample items as further evidence of the appropriateness of the judgments being made. The original probability estimates assigned to each test question were reviewed and adjustments made by the standard setters. The final individual item probabilities were summed to yield a suggested test standard for each member of the committee. The suggested standards were averaged across members of the committee to produce the recommended test standard.

The recommended test standard was presented to the Connecticut Student Assessment Advisory Committee and the State Board of Education.

In mid-March, Mathematics and Language Arts Standard-Setting Committees met to set the remedial standards for the Grade 8 Mastery Test. The following information summarized the results of the standard-setting activities conducted by CSDE staff:

#### I. Mathematics (144-item test)

Using the procedures previously outlined, the standard setters rated each item and considered the pilot data. Committee members discussed items and were given the opportunity to adjust their initial ratings. The final ratings were averaged to produce a remedial standard. It was recommended that a raw score of 79 be the remedial mathematics standard. Below is a summary of the ratings.

<u>Procedure</u>	# Judges	Range 🔏	Mean % Correct	Raw Score
Angoff	20	25.7-67.7	54	78

#### II. Reading (Degrees of Reading Power, 77-item test)

Standard setters used two procedures to establish a remedial reading standard. First, they examined the passages in the Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) test, asking themselves which passage is too difficult for the student who is just proficient enough to successfully participate in eighth-grade coursework. Discussion occurred throughout this selection process.



Second, they examined textbooks which are typically used in grades seven and eight and selected those textbooks which a minimally proficient student would not be expected to read in order to successfully participate in eighth-grade coursework. Discussion occurred throughout this selection process.

The average readability values of the selected passages and textbooks and the pilot test data were then revealed to the standard setters. The standard setters discussed the readability values and the pilot test data and recommended the DRP unit score of 55 as the remedial standard. The standard was accepted by the State Board of Education at the 80% comprehension level. Below is a summary of the ratings.

Procedure	# Judges	Readability <u>Range</u>	Recommended Remedial Standard
A. Test Passage Review	26	53-62 DRP Units	rr ppp Umita
B. Textbook Review	26	48-60 DRP Units	55 DRP Units

#### III. Writing (45-minute writing sample)

Using the procedure previously outlined, standard setters read and rated 21 essays written to a persuasive prompt and 21 essays written to an expository prompt. After discussions and final ratings, the holistic scores for the papers were revealed to the group. The committee then discussed the appropriate remedial writing standard in light of the degree to which their ratings matched the holistic scores. It was the recommendation of the committee that a holistic writing score of 4 be used as the remedial writing standard. Below is a summary of the ratings.

	PERSU	ASIVE PROMPT	
	Rating A	fter Discussion	
Holistic	Definitely	·	Definitely
Score	NOT Proficient	<u>Borderline</u>	<u>Proficient</u>
2	100%	0%	0%
3	69%	0%	31%
4	27 <b>%</b>	1%	72 <b>%</b>
5	0%	0%	100%
6	<b>6%</b>	0%	94%
7	1%	0%	99%
8	0%	0%	100%

	EXPOS	ITORY PROMPT		
	Rating A	fter Discussion	_	
Holistic	Definitely		Definitely	
<u>Score</u>	NOT Proficient	<u>Borderline</u>	<u>Proficient</u>	
2	100%	0%	0%	
3	9 <b>9%</b>	0%	1%	
4	17%	1%	82%	
5	22 <b>%</b>	0%	78 <b>%</b>	
6	0%	0%	100%	
7	0%	0%	100%	
8	0%	0%	100%	



#### LANGUAGE ARTS STANDARD-SETTING COMMITTEE

Dell Britt. Newtown Public Schools Fred Brucoli, New London Public Schools Patricia Dobson, Stafford Public Schools Donald Falcetti, Litchfield Public Schools Bill Farr, Bolton Public Schools James Foley, Waterbury Public Schools Dorothy French, Litchfield Public Schools Marguerite Fuller, Bridgeport Public Schools Sara Godek, Stafford Public Schools Nina Grecenko, Newtown Public Schools Mary Haylon, Hartford Public Schools Karen Karcheski, Danbury Public Schools Robert Kinder, CT State Department of Education Jean Klein, Newtown Public Schools Mark Kristoff, New London Public Schools Thomas Lane, Old Saybrook Public Schools Lucretia Leeves, Hartford Public Schools Edward Moore, Danbury Public Schools Mary Murray, Putnam Public Schools Dick Nelson, Old Saybrook Public Schools Olive S. Niles, East Hartford Public Schools Anne L. Rash, Bolton Public Schools Bernice Wagge, Waterbury Public Schools Mary Weinland, CT State Department of Education Mary Wilson, Hartford Public Schools Barbara Zamagni, Putnam Public Schools

#### MATHEMATICS STANDARD-SETTING COMMITTEE

Barbara Bailey, New Haven Public Schools Pat Banning, Windham Public Schools George Caouette, Manchester Public Schools Pearl Caouette, Manchester Public Schools Betsy Carter, CT State Department of Education Tony Ditrio, Norwalk Public Schools Don Flis, West Hartford Public Schools Marian Frascino, Norwalk Public Schools Charles Framularo, Bridgeport Public Schools Sheryl Hershonick, New Haven Public Schools Steve Leinwand, CT State Department of Education Mable McCarthy, Middletown Public Schools Michele Nahas, Windham Public Schools Judy Narveson, Farmington Public Schools Mary Ann Papa, West Hartford Public Schools Jim Pinto, Bloomfield Public Schools Helen Prescott, Ashford Public Schools Dolores Vecchiarelli, Westport Public Schools Sylvia Webb, Middletown Public Schools Frank Whittaker, Bridgeport Public Schools



#### APPENDIX E

Grade Eight Overview of Holistic Scoring

and

Marker Papers for Holistic Scoring



#### An Overview of Holistic Scoring

#### Description of the Method

Holistic scoring involves judging a writing sample for its <u>total</u> effect. The scorer makes an overall evaluation taking into account all characteristics which distinguish good writing. No one feature (such as spelling, rhetoric, or organization) should be weighted to the exclusion of all other features. Contributing to the rationale underlying holistic scoring is evidence that:

- no aspect of writing can be judged independently and result in an overall score of quality;
- o teachers can recognize and concur upon good writing samples; and
- o teachers tend to rank entire pieces of writing in the same way, regardless of the importance they might attach to the particular components of writing.

The scoring scale for holistic scoring is determined by the quality of the specific samples being evaluated. That is, the success of a particular response is determined in relationship to the range of ability reflected in the set of writing samples being assessed.

#### Preparation for Scoring

Prior to the training/scoring sessions, a committee consisting of Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) consultants, representatives of the Language Arts Advisory Committee and other language arts specialists from throughout the state, two chief readers and a project director from Measurement Inc. of Durham, North Carolina, and a reading specialist from The Psychological Corporation met and read a substantial number of essays drawn from the total pool of essays to be scored. Approximately 60 essays were selected to serve as "range-finders" or "marker papers" representing the range of achievement demonstrated in the total set of papers. Copies of those range-finders served as training papers during the scoring workshops which followed. Each range-finder paper was assigned a score according to a four-point scale, where I represented a poor paper and 4 represented a superior paper.

#### Scoring Workshops

During the month of November, several holistic scoring workshops were held in various locations throughout the state. Attendance at the grade eight scoring workshops totaled 253 teachers. A chief reader and two assistants were present at every workshop in addition to representatives of the CSDE. Each workshop consisted of a training session and a scoring session.

#### Training and Qualifying

O All teachers were shown approximately fourteen range-finder papers. The chief reader discussed each paper and explained the reason why each received its score.



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- All teachers were given a six-paper practice set. They scored the papers independently and recorded the scores on their papers. When all teachers were finished, the chief reader discussed each paper and explained why each received its score.
- O All teachers were given a nine-paper training set. They scored the papers independently, based on an overall impression, and recorded their scores on a monitor sheet as well as on their papers. As they finished reading and scoring, they brought the monitor sheet to the team leader who checked the scores. When all teachers were finished and all monitor sheets were checked, the chief reader discussed the nine-paper set.
- o Regardless of whether or not they qualified on the first training set, all teachers were then given another nine-paper training set. They scored the papers and had the monitor sheets checked. Set Two was not discussed, except with non-qualifiers.
- O Teachers were considered qualified if they scored six or more papers correctly on either set. Teachers who met the standard began scoring actual test papers after Set Two.
- o If any teacher did not qualify, they received additional training by one of the team leaders or by the chief reader away from the scoring room. They had two more opportunities to qualify. Any teacher who failed to qualify would have been excused from the project and paid for one day.

#### The Scoring Session

Once scorers qualified, actual scoring of the writing exercises began according to the steps outlined below:

- O Scorers read each paper once carefully but quickly and designated a score. Again, the score reflected the scorer's overall impression of the response as it corresponded with the features of written composition which were internalized during the training process.
- o Each paper was read and scored by a second scorer independently of the first, that is, without seeing the score assigned by the first reader. The chief reader had the responsibility of adjudicating any disagreement of more than one point between the judgments of the first two scorers. In other words, adjacent scores (i.e., awarded scores of 4 and 3, 1 and 2, 2 and 3) were acceptable, but larger discrepancies (i.e., scores of 2 and 4, 3 and 1, 1 and 4) were resolved by the chief reader. In general, with successful training, the occurrence of large score discrepancies is rare.
- The two scores for each paper were <u>added</u> to produce the final score for each student, resulting in scores between 2 and 8.



#### Understanding the Holistic Scores

Examples of actual student papers which are representative of the scoring range will assist the reader in understanding the statewide standard set for writing and interpreting the test results. Sample papers representing four different holistic scores are presented on the following pages. Note that the process of summing the scores assigned by the two readers expands the scoring scale to account for "borderline" papers. A paper which receives a 4 from both scorers (for a total score of 8) is likely to be better than a paper to which one reader assigns a 4 and another reader assigns a 3 (for a total score of 7). In addition, it should be emphasized that each of the score points represents a range of student papers—some 4 papers are better than others.

A score of Not Scorable (NS) was assigned to student papers in certain cases. A score of NS indicates that the student's writing skills remain to be assessed. The cases in which a score of NS was assigned were as follows:

- o responses merely repeated the assignment;
- o illegible responses;
- o responses in languages other than English;
- o responses that failed to address the assigned topic in any way; and
- o responses that were too brief to score accurately, but which demonstrated no signs of serious writing problems (for example, a response by a student who wrote the essay first on scratch paper and who failed to get very much of it copied).

Both readers had to agree that a paper deserved a NS before this score was assigned. If the two readers disagreed, the Chief Reader arbitrated the discrepancy. Papers which were assigned a score of NS were not included in summary reports of test results.

#### Summary Comments

The fact that standards must be maintained and reinforced throughout a scoring session cannot be overemphasized. Holistic scoring depends for its usefulness on consistency of scoring among all scorers throughout the sessions.



#### CONNECTICUT MASTERY TEST 1991 Grade Eight Writing Assignment

A 16-year-old friend is thinking about dropping out of school. Should people this age quit school? You want to persuade your friend to have the same opinion about quitting school that you have. How would you persuade your friend?

- Think about all the reasons for and against dropping out of school.
- Decide whether you think dropping out of school is good for 16-year-olds.
- Write an essay to persuade your friend to agree with your decision.



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CONNECTICUT MASTERY TEST		Cuit fortable both	Score Point: 1  The writer has made a choice about dropping out of school and attempted to give reasons. The reasons, however, are presented in a disjointed and unclear manner. More connections between the reasons or more elaboration is needed for a higher score.		9 e Dad
INNECTICUT MASTERY TEST WRITING SAMPLE	At Cape the your whome when you would now a chaped broad ablance and construct of the construction of the	This brief response has one reason (get a diploma) extended with two pieces of information (work; seiling drugs). More elaboration or a lengthier list of reasons is required for a higher score.			Page 6



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MARIN 9 SAMPLE	Stink dropping out of school ing the college was entitled they will be able to de many things will specify fourth of you could always getter get a soing a death of a second alfall things read hard about they again they seems they again all all all all all and a second all all all a second a second all a second all a second a second all a second a s	Score Point: 2 This writer uses cause and effect in the elaboration of what will happen if you drop out of school. The repercussions are specific in detail, but to receive a higher score, the second reason (garbage collector) needs more elaboration.	Page 6
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Score Point: 2

This writer takes a stand (stay in school) and gives reasons (made tiles in the state paragraph. This intrinsical is repeated in the next three paragraphs with very little additional information or elaboration given. The overall amount of information remains minimal.

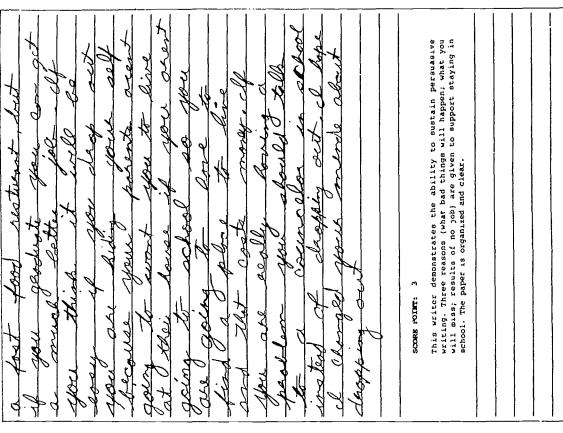
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Score Point: 3

This response is very persuasive but requires more elaborated reaces to achieve a higher score. The writer gives four or five different results of dropping out of school (bag boy; most wanted) but does not discuss any of them in detail.

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## SCORE POINT: 4

This response is organized and controlled. The response is directed to a personal friend, and the writer elaborates on thin particular friend a good qualities, feelings on drugs, ambitions and maturity lavel. Those four areas are explained using specific detail (footbail team) and cause and effect (being ripped off by

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CONNECTICUT MASTERY TEST

WRITING SAMPLE

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SCORE FOIRT: 4

This response is well-organized and controlled with sufficient development to achieve a "4". The writer builds the arguments with clear and specific information (high paying job; college) and fluent discussions about making a difference in your life and making essething of your life. This results in full development of the writer's stand.

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APPENDIX F Grade Eight Analytic Rating Guide and Marker Papers for Analytic Scoring

#### Grade Eight Analytic Rating Guide

FOCUS: How effectively does the writer unify the paper by a dominant topic?

- 1 = switches and/or drifts frequently from the dominant topic
- 2 = switches and/or drifts somewhat from the dominant topic
- 3 = stays on topic throughout the response

ORGANIZATION: Is there a plan that clearly governs the sequence from the beginning to the end of the response, and is the plan effectively signaled?

- 1 = no discernible plan
- 2 = inferable plan and/or discernible sequence; some signals may be present
- 3 = controlled, logical sequence with a clear plan

SUPPORT/ELABORATION: To what extent is the narrative developed by details that describe and explain the narrative elements (character, action and setting)?

- 1 = vague or sketchy details that add little to the clarity of the response or specific details but too few to be called list-like
- 2 = details that are clear and specific but are list-like, or uneven, or not developed
- 3 = somewhat developed details that enhance the clarity of the response

CONVENTIONS: To what extent does the student use the conventions of standard written English (e.g., sentence formation, spelling, usage, capitalization, punctuation)?

- 1 = many errors
- 2 = some errors
- 3 = few errors



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#### APPENDIX G

Sample Grade Eight Mastery Test Score Reports

- o Class Diagnostic Report - Mathematics
- o School by Class Peport Mathematics
- o District by School Report
   Mathematics
- o Class Diagnostic Report Language Arts
- o School by Class Report Language Arts
- o District by School Report Language Arts
- o Parent/Student Diagnostic Report



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COPY 1 COPYIGHT © 1984 by Harcourt Brate Jayanowi h Inc						PROCES	PROCESS NO. 19150158-3578-06922-1	578-06922-1	<u> </u>

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GRADE: 08 FORM: D TEST DATE: 09/91 SCHOOL: SCHOOL CODE: DISTRICT: B DISTRICT DISTRICT: DISTRICT CODE:		25932	75933	75934		MATHEMATICS	HATICS PART 2	HEMATICS PART 2 OF 2
Scores indicate Namer/Percent of students mastering each objective	75931						3CHOOL	DISTRICT
MOTBER OF STUDENTS LESTED  HASTE  PASTE  CONTINUE  CONTI	ERY •	19	72	56			101	1218
LVING AND APPLICATIONS  LUXING AND APPLICATIONS  Pref graphs, tables and charts  1-, 2-step problems-fractions  1- and 2-step problems-fractions  problems involving measurement  ate a rascomble answer  problems with extraneous info  ify needed information in problems  problems with extraneous info  ify needed information in problems  T AND GEOMETRY  ify figures using geometric terms  involderamine perimeters/areas  angth/area/volume/angle measure  approp metric/cust measures & units  insion within measurement systems  3 of the control of th	44444444 4444 000 000 000	ļ	27/100 20/74 17/63 6/22 6/23 6/23 10/37 10/37 10/37 10/37 5/19	26/100 24/92 26/70 17/65 11/65 21/81 11/65 11/65 11/65 11/65 11/65 11/65 11/65 11/65 11/65			99,98 69,68 59,58 32,32 61,60 72,71 63,62 36,76 56,75 56,75 56,75 56,75 56,75 56,75	1179/98 703/64 703/64 703/64 440/36 807/67 455/36 663/55 197/12 577/12 577/12 577/12 577/12
AVERAGE NUMBER OF OBJECTIVES MASTERED	ED 18.2	12.6	20.0	28.4			20.1	18.3
NUMBER/PERCENT OF STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE STATE GOAL	AL* 2/7	0/0	2/7	8/35			12/12	8/98
NAMBER/PERCENT OF STUDENTS BELOM REMEDIAL STANDAR	ARD** 7/24	11/61	2/7	0/0			20/21	405/35
* State Goel is 31 of 36 Objectives Mestered. ** Remedial Standard is 78 of 144 Items Correct.				CO Of	Copyright © 1991, 1990, of Education. All righ	1987 by the C ts reserved.	connecticut State Depe Printed in the U.S.A.	Spertment 3.A.



CONNECTICUT MASTERY TESTING PROGRAM	DISTR	DISTRICT BY	<b>SCH00</b>	SCHOOL REPORT	<u> </u>				THE PS'	YCHOLOGICAL CORF	OBATION THE D
GRADE: 08 FORM: 0 TEST DATE: 09/91									MATHEMATICS	WATHEMATICS	SYCHOLO
DISTRICT: B DISTRICT DISTRICT CODE:			SCHOOL C	SCHOOL C	SCHOOL D SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	ø		PART 1 OF 2	GICAL C
Scores indicate Number/Percent of students mastering each objective	SCH00L	۵۲. م						всноог н	L.	DISTRI	ORPOR
NUMBER OF STUDENTS TESTED		55	64	47 137	101	87	נג	84		1218	ATION
OBJECTIVES	MASTERY CRITERIA	*//*	2/1	**	<b>.</b>	Z// <b>\$</b>	<i>%//</i> *	%/ <b>*</b>		7./*	
CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS  1. Order fractions 2. Order decimals 3. Round whole numbers 4. Round decimals to the nearest 1, .1, .01 5. Hult/div whole #'s/dec by 10, 100, 1000 6. Identify frac/dec/percents from pictures 7. Convert fractions-decimals 8. Convert fractions-decimals 9. Identify points on # lines/scales/grids 10. Identify procedure-frac/dec estimation COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS 11. Identify procedure-frac/dec estimation COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS 12. Add and subtract whole numbers 13. Multiply and divide whole numbers 14. Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers 15. Id corr place of doc point in mult/div 16. Add/subtract fractions and mixed numbers 17. Multiply fractions and mixed numbers 18. Determine the percent of a number 19. Est sum/diff of whole #'s and decimals 20. Est prod/quot of whole #'s and decimals 21. Est frac parts/percents of whole #'s 21. Est frac parts/percents of whole #'s	имимимимимимимимимимимимимимимимимимим	11/22 39 40/40 39 40/40 39 40/40 39 26/48 46,6 41/22 39 26/48 31 46/88 46,6 46/88	39/80 20/45 39/80 26/59 44/96 22/50 31/63 22/50 43/89 13/41 41/84 26/55 48/98 33/75 46/94 36/10 46/94 36/10 46/96 33/75 32/65 15/33 42/86 53/75 42/86 32/70 31/63 22/46 26/53 11/24	25/28 114/88 114/88 114/88 114/88 116/88 116/88 117/11 123/92 133/92 14/11 15/19 15/19 16/19 17/19 18/19	42/43 82/57 82/54 82/54 82/54 82/54 82/61	33/38 42/48 42/48 46/51 36/41 31/36 42/36 42/48 42/48 42/48 42/48 42/48 42/48 42/48 42/48 42/48 42/48	31/46 36/53 36/53 36/53 37/54 119/28 40/59 36/70 36/70 36/91 64/91 64/91 64/91 64/91 64/91 64/91 64/91 64/91 36/53	11/24 19/41 17/37 24/34 17/37 16/35 16/35 16/35 16/37 17/37 17/37 14/30 4/9 4/9 4/9 4/9 5/11 27/57 9/19		459/39 605/51 1019/06 663/56 627/55 617/55 695/59 61111/93 11111/93 111/93 111/9	
* State Goal is 31 of 36 Objectives Hastered. ** Remedial Standard is 78 of 144 Items Correct.			_		Copyria of Edu	Copyright © 19	91, 1990, All rich	All rights reserved	Connectiont Printed in	State Departm	=
COPY 01 CODY: OH (*. 1984 by Marchurt Brace Joyanovich, Inc.								PRO	SS NO.	19150158-3578-06697-1	17

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CONTECTACOI PASIENT IESIAMS PROSNAM	DISTRICT	B	HOOL	SCHOOL REPORT					Page 2	
GRADE: 08 FORM: D TEST DATE: 09/91								MATHEMATICS	MATICS	
DISTRICT: B DISTRICT DISTRICT CODE: Scores indicate Number/Percent of	CHOOLS	SCHOOL B	SCHOOL C	SCHOOL D SCHOOL	w	SCHOOL F	SCHOOL 6	SCHOOL H	PART 2 OF 2	2 2
students mastering each objective										DISTRICT
NUMBER OF STUDENTS TESTED	5	55 49	47	137	101	87	17	84		1218
OBJECTIVES CR	MASTERY #/%	*/%	2/\$	2/\$	2/*	× **	:/ <b>*</b>	2/.*		<i>*/</i> *
PROBLEM SOLVING AND APPLICATIONS 22. Add/sub/mult/div with a calculator 23. Interpret graphs, tables and charts 24. Solve 1-, 2-step prob-whole % s/decimals 25. Solve 1- and 2-step problems-fractions 26. Solve problems fivoluting measurement 27. Solve problems such elementary probability 28. Estimate a reasonable answer 29. Solve problems with extraneous info 30. Identify needed information in problems 31. Solve problems - organizing data	3 of 4 52/95 3 of 4 39/71 3 of 4 15/27 3 of 4 10/28 3 of 4 21/38 3 of 4 31/65 3 of 4 31/65 3 of 4 31/65 3 of 4 16/25	49/100 42/86 9 43/88 9 43/88 7 34/69 8 17/35 8 17/35 8 29/59 6 39/80 5 39/80	65/96 31/66 23/49 21/45 6/13 16/30 14/30 21/45	133/99 80/59 77/57 30/22 14/10 35/26 86/65 44/33	99,98 69,68 59,68 32,52 22,22 61,60 72,71 44,44 63,62	84/98 48/56 43/50 28/33 12/14 12/14 53/66 36/42 44/51	69/97 44/62 45/63 19/27 20/28 28/39 27/38 49/69	45/100 22/49 23/51 7/16 1/2 15/33 28/60 22/49 12/27		1179/96 773/64 703/58 365/30 210/17 440/36 807/67 455/38 663/53
MEASUREHENT AND GEOMETRY 32. Identify figures using geometric terms 33. Massure/determine perimeters/areas 34. Est length/area/volume/sngle measure 35. Pick approp metric/cust measures & units 36. Conversion within measurement systems	3 of 4 17/31 3 of 4 3/5 3 of 4 32/40 3 of 4 11/20	27.48 21.43 30.76 30.76 37.76 37.76	13/28 1/2 16/34 16/34 27/57 7/15	26/19 9/7 59/44 85/63 21/16	36/36 16/16 57/56 56/55 29/29	31/36 6/7 36/42 55/42 65/73 14/16	28/39 12/17 32/45 48/68 26/37	11/24 3/7 19/42 20/44 6/13		427/35 147/12 57/147 57/47 278/23
AVERAGE NUMBER OF OBJECTIVES MASTERED	STERED 17.9	27.72	18.6	16.5	20.1	17.2	18.4	14.1		18.3
MAMBER/PERCENT OF STUDENTS AT OR ABOVE STATE GOAL*	GOAL* 3/6	19/39	5/2	3/2	12/12	8//	10/15	0/0		8/88
NAMBER/PERCENT OF STUDENTS BELOW REMEDIAL STANDA	NDARD** 17/34	0/0	16/36	49/39	20/21	37/43	24/35	85/92		405/35
* State Goel is 31 of 36 Objectives Mastered. ** Remedial Standard is 78 of 144 Items Correct.					Copyrig of Educ	oyright © 199 Education.	11, 1990, All righ	Copyright © 1991, 1990, 1987 by the Connecticut State Department of Education. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.	cut State Depa In the U.S.A.	S.A.



THE CORE: S1953  SECOND. SECOND. CORE: S1953  SECOND. SECOND. S1953  SECOND. SECOND. S1953  SECOND.	CONNECTICUT MASTERY TESTING PROGRAM	づ	CLASS DIAGNOSTIC REPORT	PA PA	Š	STI	S	EPO	RT								LANGUAGE	ARTS	
7 10 11 11 11 11 11 8 8 9 9 11 2 11 1	101	S L		W -	-	ر ا			<b>-</b> /		5	> "	/					PAGE 1	
7 10 11 11 11 11 8 8 9 11 5 1 7 7 4 8 1 1 7 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	ü			//	//		//				///	//	//				GRAD	: 08 FORM:	CAL CORPORAT
7 10 11 11 11 11 11 8 8 9 11 5 12 13 14 15 12 11 2 14 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	TEST DATE: 09/91	/			//	//		/						//					
7 10 11 11 11 11 18 8 9 9 11 5 1 2 1 4 13 12 11 2 1 4 13 12 11 11 12 11 2 1 4 13 12 11 12 11 2 1 4 13 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 11 12 12		/		/	/				//	//	//	//	/	/	/			NUMBER/PERCENT OF STUDENTS	<u>.</u>
7 10 11 11 11 11 11 8 8 9 9 11 5 1 1 2 1 4 1 3 1 4 1 3 2 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 3 2 2 4 4 4 4 4 4	5 20	MASTERY CRITERIA	//	/				//	//	//	//	//					CLASS	ASS SCHOOL DIST	ECTIVE   DISTRICT
7 10 11 11 11 11 18 8 9 9 11 5 1 2 1 4 1 3 1 2 1 1 2 2 3 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4		CORRECT	_		_	_	_			/		_		_	_	_	27.	*/*	%/ <b>*</b>
1	NRITING MECHANICS  1. Capitalization and Punctuation  2. Spalling  3. Agreement  4. Tone	4444	<u> छ ८ शु क</u>	1		L		17.23	18 H 4	H~W4	11 8 27 4	<u> छ रू छे क</u>	8 - 23 -	<u> </u>		1		50/51 72/73 82/84 76/78	553/47 840/72 911/78 820/70
1 1 0 3 2 3 2 3 3 3 3 4 2 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	5. Locating Information 6. Motetaking and Outlining 17sterny, composition	9 9	<u>5</u> 4	73	ΦM			H H	11 2	77	<u> 13</u>		<u></u>	80 M				69/70	799/68
5 6 6 7 8 5 7 11 10 9 6 11 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	8. Inferential and Evaluative READING COMPREHENSION	o to	<u> 4 10</u>	122				12	13.2	MON	12			wa				42/43	510/44
5 9 8 11 9 7 8 10 10 7 5 9 4 6 6 4 83 6 57 6 83 5 6 2 2 3 3 3 3 5 6 5 5 6 83 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	9. Literal 10. Inferential 11. Evaluative	555	1012	NVV	তঞ্জ		_	222	8 17 21	000	17.2	_	13.06	N 4.4				60/61 39/39 36/36	739/62 428/36 369/31
6 4 6 \$7 \$8 6 4 *3 6 \$7 6 *3 4 6 2 2 3 3 3 4 6 5 5 6 5 5 6 5 5 6 5 5 6 5 5 6 5 5 6 5 6 5 5 6 5 5 6 5 5 6 5	TOTAL NAMBER OF OBJECTIVES HASTERED		<u> </u>	-	<u></u>	I _	l	7	•	_~		l _	- g				7.4	AVERAGE NUMBER OF OBJECTIVES MASTERED	SED 6.1
6 4 6 57 58 6 4 *3 6 57 6 *3 4 6 57 6 2 3 3 5 6 5 5 6 5 5 6 5 5 6 5 6 5 6 5 6 5	HOLISTIC MEASURES OF WRITING AND READING		+	╂╌	╄	上	L		十	T	+	_ l	╫	╁	╀	1	1 %/# 1 %/#	#/% AT/ABOVE STATE GOALS  ### BELOW REMEDIAL STANDARDS	SOALS
	cores: Focus Organization Support/Elaboration Conventions 7 of 8; Remedial Standard = 4 of		un .	9	Lin .			57	88	<u> </u>	30000	WWWWW WWWWW		5	<u> </u>			11/11 (14/14)	168/14
A = ABSENT Copyright e 1991, 1990, 1987 by the V = VOIO of Education. All rights reserved. NS = NOT SCORABLE	DEGREES OF READING POWER (DRP)" (State Goal=62 DRP Units; Remedial Standard=55	on contra	쫎	<u> </u>			1	\$ 72	ري دري	w 3	59	1	<u> </u>		ــــــ	1	<u> </u>	36/37 (42/43)	354/30
	HINDICATES A SCORE AT OR ABOVE THE STATE GOAL  HINDICATES A SCORE BELOW THE REMEDIAL STANDARD THIS STUDENT WE  MANALYTIC SCORES ARE GIVEN ONLY FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO SCORE!  1 - NEEDS REMEDIAL ASSISTANCE 2 - BORDERLINE PERFORMANCE 3 - S	MUST RECEIVE FURTH ED AT OR BELOW THE SATISFACTORY PERF	ER DIAG REMEDIA	NOSIS	- IDARD	4 > %	ABSENT YOLD	PRABLE	-	Copy of E	righ	t • 1	991, A1	1990	ahts 1	187 b	g th	Connecticut State Department Printed in the U.S.A.	Department
PROCESS NO.	COPY 1																PROCESS NO	. 19150158-3578-06914-1	78-06914-1

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CONNECTICUT MASTERY TESTING PROGRAM	S	HOOL	BY CL	SCHOOL BY CLASS REPORT	PORT				THE PSYCHOLOG	THE PSYCHOLOGICAL CORPORATION  THE PAGE 1
GRADE: D8 FORM: D TEST DATE: 09/91 SCHOOL: E								AUGHA	ANGIACE APTE	
					50934	_			GE AN IS	
DISTRICT CODE: Scores indicate Number/Percent of		12003	50932	50955			_			
students mastering each objective		50951							SCHOOL	DISTRICT
NUMBER OF STUDENTS TESTED		29	19	27	<b>56</b>				101	1220
OBJECTIVES	MASTERY CRITERIA	2/\$	#/X	2/#	×/*				<b>*</b>	<b>**</b>
MRITING MECHANICS 1. Capitalization and Punctuation 2. Spalling	9 of 12 6 of 8	10/36	3/16	18/67	19/79				50/51	553/47
3. Aureement 4. Tone STRIN STRICE	of 1	23/82	12/63	26/96	21/88				82/84 76/78	911/78
5. Locating Information 6. Notetaking and Outlining LISTENING COMPREHENSION	9 of 12 3 of 4	21/75	3/16 5/28	23/85	22/92 20/83				69/7ù 58/60	799/68
7. Literal 8. Inferential and Evaluative READING COMPREHENSION	3 of 4 12 of 16	8/29	6/33	12/44	16/64				42/43	510/44
9, Literal 10. Inferential 11. Evaluative	6 of 8 10 of 14 10 of 14	13/46 7/25	2/37	19/70	21/84 18/72 17/68				60/61	739/62
HOLISTIC HEASURES OF WRITING AND READING									#/% OF STUDENTS	TUDENTS
MRITING SAMPLE* NAMBER/PERCENT PRODUCING MATERIAL THAT IS:	HOLISTIC	2/4	*//	2/4	**				%/\$	#//
Mell written with developed supportive detail (At or above the state coal)	7 or 8	1/4	0/0	3/12	72/7				11/11	168/14
Generally well organized with supportive detail Minimally proficient Below the remedial standard	5 or 6 2 or 3	19/68 5/18 3/11	8/42 7/37 4/21	12/46 6/23 5/19	14/54 3/12 2/8				53/54 21/21 14/14	609/52 245/21 155/13
DECREES OF READING POWER (DRP)** NUMBER/PERCENT OF STUDENTS	DRP UNIT SCORE	<b></b>	<b>.</b>	<b>.</b>	2/#				<b>*</b>	<i>"</i> *
At/above the reading goal for beginning grade 08 Below the reading goal for beginning grade 08 but at or above the remedial standard	62+ 55 to	10/36	1/5 3/16	10/37	15/63				36/37	354/30 267/22
Below the remedial standard  AVERAGE NAMBER OF OBJECTIVES MASTERED IN LANGUAGE ARTS  AVERAGE HOLISTIC WRITING SCORE	Below 55 ARTS	16/57	2.9	7.4	8.8				42/43	578/48
AVERAGE DRP UNIT SCORE		, Z	84	57	65				56.0	55.1
Copyright © 1951, 1990, 1987 by the Cornecticut State of Education. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.	State Department the U.S.A.	go t	* State Remodi	e Goal i dial Sta	is 7 for tandard is	State Goal is 7 for Writing. Remodial Standard is 4 for Writing.	## State G Remedia	State Goal is 62 DRP Units Remedial Standard is 55 DRP	Units for Reading. 55 DRP Units for Reading.	ng. - Reading.
COPY 01 Copy git 1984 by Harmont Brace Jovanisanh inc								PROCESS ND. 19	ND. 19150158-3578-06902-1	78-06902-1



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GRADE: 08 FORM: D TEST DATE: 09/91									LANGUAGE ARTS	SE ARTS	
DISTRICT: B DISTRICT DISTRICT CODE: Scores indicate Number/Percent of	U	)     V	SCHOOL B	SCHOOL C	SCHOOL D	0 SCHOOL	SCHOOL F	SCHOOL 6	:	OGICAL CC	
students mastering each objective	n								scнool н	0	ISTRICT
MUMBER OF STUDENTS TESTED		55	65	95	137	101	87	72	4.8		1220
OBJECTIVES	MASTERY CRITERIA	2/1	2/8	2/8	2/.	:\ <b>*</b>		% <b>*</b>	*V.*		\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
ICS ation and Punctuation	2,2,	30/57	40/85	28/68 34/79	46/35	50/51	42/49	26/38	16/36		553/47
Agreement C	11 of 15 3 of 4	45/85	\$/9 <del>4</del> 46/8	32/78	98/75 79/61	82/8 <del>4</del> 76/78	64/75	48/71	50/68 29/66		911/78
5. Control Information 6. Notataking and Outlining LISTENING COMPREHENZION	9 of 12 3 of 4	47.89	96/25	30/73	95/09	69/70	50/59	46/68	27/61 19/45		799 <b>/68</b> 682/60
lative	3 of 4 12 of 16	42/78	32/65	16/37	46/35	42/43 35/36	27/32	29/43	22/49 14/31		510/44
	6 of 8 10 of 14 10 of 14	33/65 27/53 26/51	46/94 35/71 30/61	27/59 10/22 10/22	70/52 24/18 27/20	50/61 39/39 36/36	52/60 37/43 20/23	43/61 23/32 22/31	30/67 13/29 11/24		739/62 428/36 369/31
HOLISTIC MEASURES OF MRITING AND READING										#/% OF STUDENTS AT STATED LEVEL	DENTS FVE
MRITING SAMPLE* NUMBER/PERCENT PRODUCING MATERIAL THAT IS:	HOLISTIC SCORE	*/.	*/%	×/×	××*	×.	2/2	2//8	\$7.7		\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
Mell written with developed supportive detail (At or above the state cost)	7 or 8	7/14	7/14	11/24	6/7	11/11	12/14	8/9	8/18		168/14
Generally well organized with supportive detail Minimally proficient Below the remedial standard	5 or 6 2 or 3	29/58 10/20 4/8	38/78 4/8 0/0	18/40 12/27 4/9	64/48 37/28 23/17	53/54 21/21 14/14	55/65 13/15 5/6	42/58 14/19 10/14	24/53 8/18 5/11		609/52 245/21 155/13
DESREES OF READING POWER (DRP)** NUMBER/PERCENT OF STUDENTS	DRP UNIT SCORE	×/×	*//	<b>.</b>	**	:/ <b>*</b>	% <b>.</b>	2/4	\$7,%		×.
or beginning grade 08 beginning grade 08 at atandard	62+ 55 to 61	26/48 8/15	33/67 13/27	10/22	21/15	36/37	22/26 19/22	21/29	12/26 13/28		354/30
	Below 55	20/37	3/6	27/59	81/60	42/43	45/52	42/58	22/47		578/48
AVERAGE NAMBER OF OBJECTIVES MASTERED IN LANGUAGE ARTS AVERAGE HOLISTIC MRITING SCORE AVERAGE DRP UNIT SCORE	<b>KRTS</b>	8.4 5.2 60	9.2 5.7 65	5.9 5.2 53	4.7 4.7 52	6.3 5.0 56	5.7 5.4 54	5.6 4.9 53	5,6 5,3 55		6.1 5.1 55
Copyright © 1991, 1990, 1987 by the Connecticut State Department of Education. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.	te Departm U.S.A.	want	* Sta	State Goal is 7 for M Remodial Standard is	is 7 for tandard is	for Writing. d is 4 for Writing	Iriting.	** State Remed	Goal is 62 DRP	Units for Reading. 55 DRP Units for Reading.	Peading

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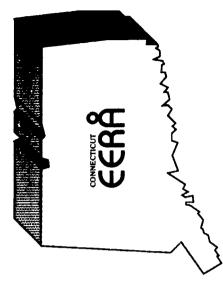


## Connecticut

# Mastery Testing

Program

### **GRADE 8**



# PARENT / STUDENT DIAGNOSTIC REPORT

Your child's scores on the Connecticut Mastery Test are reported inside.

For a description of the Connecticut Mastery Testing Program, see the back cover of this folder.

For general information about your local district's testing program, please contact your superintendent of schools.

For further information on the Connecticut Mastery Testing Program, contact: Connecticut State Department of Education, Student Assessment and Testing, Box 2219, Hartford, Connecticut 06145, (203) 566-4008.

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W THE PSYTHARCHICAL CORPORATIONS

HARLOV REPRAFER THANNING IN: = 108 PROCESS NO. 19151638-4444-00139-1 TOTAL MANBER OF OBJECTIVES MASTERED (out of 36) = (State Goal is 31 of 36 Objectives Mastered)
NAMBER OF ITEMS CORRECT (out of 144)
(Remedial Standard is 78 of 144 items correct)

28

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0 0 0 0 0 0 4 4 4 4 4 4

## CONNECTICUT MASTERY TESTING PROGRAM

GRADE 8 REPORT

MATHEMATICS

EERA

TEACHER: SCHOOL: DISTRICT:

A B DISTRICT

08 09/91 **0** GRADE: TEST DATE: FORM:

STUDENT OBJECTIVES ANALYSIS

ح ح

STUDENT

MASTERY CRITERIA

NUMBER CORRECT SCORE

**bbbbbbbbb** 

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

### OBJECTIVES TESTED

CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS

fractions decimals

Round whole numbers

Round decimals to the meanest whole number, tenth and hundredth

Multiply and divids whole numbers and docimals by 10, 100 and 1000

Identify fractions, decimals and percents from pictorial representations fractions to decimals and vice versa

Convert fractions and decimals to percents and vice versa identify points on number lines, scales and grids

Identify ratios and fractional parts from given data

Identify an appropriate procedure for making estimates with decimals and fractions 2. Order deci 3. Round whol 4. Round deci 5. Multiply a 6. Identify f 7. Convert fr 8. Convert fr 9. Identify p 10. Identify r 11. Identify c

Identify the correct placement of the decimal point in multiplication and division of decimals. Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers

Estimate sums and differences of whole numbers and decimals including making change

4 4 4 M O O N 4 M 4

4 6 40

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

ð ţ 40

involving whole numbers and decimals including averaging

Curronations, solids.

13. Multiply and divide 2 - and 3-digit whole numbers by 1- and 2-digit numbers 14. Add and subtract whole numbers have correct placement of the decimal point in multiplication and divises.

15. Identify the correct placement of the decimal point in multiplication and divises.

16. Identify the correct placement of the decimal point in multiplication and divises.

17. Multiply fractions and mixed numbers.

18. Determine the percent of a number of whole numbers and decimals including making of 20. Estimate sums and differences of whole numbers and decimals.

18. Estimate products and quotients of whole numbers and money amounts 20. Estimate fractional parts and percents of whole numbers and money amounts.

20. Estimate fractional parts and quotients using a calculator 21. Estimate sums, differences, products and quotients using a calculator.

21. Estimate sums, differences, products and quotients using a calculator.

22. Compute sums, differences, products and quotients using a calculator.

23. Interpret graphs, tables and charts.

24. Solve 1- and 2-step problems involving fractions.

25. Solve a reasonable answer to a given problem (without calculator available).

26. Solve problems with extraneous information.

27. Solve problems with extraneous information.

29. Identify needed information in problem situations.

21. Identify needed information in problem situations.

Estimate a reasonable answer to a given problem (without calculator available)

31. Solve process problems involving the organization of data MEASUREMENT AND GEOMETRY (with calculator available)

Estimate lengths, areas, volumes and angle meass; es Select appropriate metric or customary measurus and units

32. Identify figures using geometric terms
33. Measure and determine perimeters and areas
34. Estimate lengths, areas, volumes and angle m
35. Select appropriate metric or customary measu
36. Make measurement convertions within systems

This student has mastered 28 of 36 mathematics objectives and correctly answered of 144 items.

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## CONNECTICUT MASTERY TESTING PROGRAM

GRADE 8 REPORT

LANGUAGE ARTS



SCHOOL: A DISTRICT B DISTRICT FEACHER:

08 09/91 D GRADE: TEST DATE: FORM:

STUDENT OBJECTIVES ANALYSIS ũ 4 STUDENT

MASTERY CRITERIA

NUMBER CORRECT SCORE

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6 of 10 of 3

### **OBJECTIVES TESTED**

Capitalization and Punctuation WRITING MECHANICS

Spelling

Agreement (verb tense, subject-object-verb, and pronoun referent) 2. Spellj 3. Agreem 4. Tone

#### STUDY SKILLS

5. Locating Information (schedules, maps, indexes, glossaries, dictionaries) 6. Notetaking and Outlining

### LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Literal (understands the meanings of ideas clearly stated by a speaker)
 Inferential and Evaluative (understands the meanings of ideas not clearly stated, but implied, by a speaker and is able to make critical judgments about them)

### READING COMPREHENSION

9. Literal (understands the meanings of ideas clearly stated within a passage) 10. Inferential (understands the meanings of ideas not stated, but implied, within a passage) 11. Evaluative (able to make critical judgments about statements and inferences within a passage)

TOTAL NUMBER OF OBJECTIVES MASTERED (out of 11)

4

WRITING SAMPLE	STUDENT
Holistic Writing Score (Remedial Standard is 4 of 8) (Writing Goal is 7 of 8)	8

This student has scored below the remedial standard on the writing test diagnosis. If necessary, remedial help will be provided. Questions concerning these scores should be directed to this student's teacher or principal. and demonstrated particular weakness in the area of: Support/Elaboration. School district personnel will provide further

DEGREES OF READING POWER (DRP)"	STUDENT
DRP Units (Remodial Standard is 55 DRP Units) (Reading Goal is 62 DRP Units)	58
This student has scored below the reading and for hading a state	in a few sections

graders but above the remedial standard.

Degrees of Reading Power and DRP are trademarks owned by Touchstone Applied Science Associates. Inc.

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## PARENT/STUDENT DIAGNOSTIC REPORT

#### Dear Parent:

inside you will find the results of the Connecticut Mastery Test administered to your child earlier this fall. The test results help to show you and the school district's professional staff how well your child is performing on those skills identitied by the State of Connecticut as important for students entering eighth grade to have mastered.

These tests are designed to determine the specific skill levels of students. The test results will be used to:

-- provide your school with information for use in assessing the progress of individual students over time;

- provide your school with information based on which improvements in the general instructional program can be made; and provide information on appropriate basic skills remedial assistance for students so indicated.

Mastery testing will occur each fall in grades four, six, and eight for all students and in high school for those students for whom retesting

If you have any questions about these test results, please ask your child's teacher(s). The teacher(s) will share with you other observations and recommendations based on experience in working with your son or daughter during the last several months.

### Description of the Test

fractions and decimals; round whole numbers and decimals; make conversions among fractions, decimals and percents; compute with whole numbers, decimals and fractions; solve 1- and 2-step problems involving (2) Computational Skills; (3) Problem Solving/Applications; and (4) Measurement/Geometry. Test items evaluate a student's ability to: order whole numbers, decimals, fractions, measurement and elementary probability (with a calculator available); estimate a reasonable answer to a problem; solve problems with extraneous information and identify needed information in problem situations; measure and/or estimate Mathematics: The mathematics test assesses thirty-six (36) specific objectives in four general areas of: (1) Conceptual Understandings; lengths, areas, volumes and angle measures; make measurement conversions; and select appropriate measurement units. Language Arts: The language arts test covers two general areas: Reading/Listening Comprehension, and Writing/Study Skills. There are eleven (11) objectives and two holistic measures, one in reading and one in writing.

The content of Reading/Listening Comprehension consists of narrative, expository, and persuasive passages on a variety of topics measuring a student's reading and listening ability in: (1) Literal Comprehension; (2) Inferential or Interpretive Comprehension; and (3) Evaluative or Critical Comprehension. Audio tapes are used to assess a student's listening comprehension ability. Also used is the "Degrees of Reading Power" (DRP) Test which includes eleven (11) passages and seventy-seven (77) test items. It is designed to measure a student's ability to understand nonfiction English prose on a graduated scale of reading difficulty.

Second, the test assesses the mechanics of good writing, which are defined as: (1) Capitalization and Punctuation: (2) Spelling; (3) Agreement; and (4) Tone. Finally the test assesses Study Skills, which have been defined as Locating Information (schedules, maps, index reference); and (4) Tone. The content of Writing/Study Skills consists of three components. First, writing skills are directly assessed. A student is asked to write on a designated topic. The writing is judged on the student's demonstrated ability to convey information in a coherent and organized fashion. ences, and dictionary usage) and Outlining and Notetaking. This part of the test measures a student's ability to find and use information from listed sources, and to make notes from audio tapes.



Appendix H

Fall 1991 Grade Eight

State by District Report:

Mathematics

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Percent of Students Meeting State Goal Percent of Students Needing Further Diagnosis conversion within measurement systems TOTAL Dick approp metricicus messures & units est length/arealvolume/angle measure measure/determine perimeters/areas identify figures using geometric terms MEASUREMENT AND GEOMETRY SON'S Process Problems data organization SCORES INDICATE THE PERCENT OF STUDENTS MASTERING EACH OBJECTIVE id needed into in problem situations SOME extransious information problems solve problems involving elem problebility Solve problems involving measurement solve 1-, 2-step problems-fractions PROBLEM SOLVING AND APPLICATIONS solve 1-, 2-step probs-whole #'s and dec interpret graphs, tables and charts add/sub/mult/div with calculator est free parters of whole numbers est prod/quot of whole numbers and dec est surricult of whole numbers and dec determine the percent of a number OBJECTIVES TESTED multiply fractions and mixed numbers add/sub fractions and mixed numbers COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS ld con place of dec point in multidiv add and subtract decimals multiply and divide whole numbers add and subtract whole numbers id procedure for fracided estimation id ratios and fractional parts from data \*58\*\*\*\*56934\*\*5645\*\*\* ld points on number lines, scales, grids convent tractidec to percent, vice versa convert fractions to decimals, vice versa CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS ld fract, dec, percents from pictures multidity whole numbers by 10, 100, 1000 round decimals to the nearest 1, .1. .01 \* round whole numbers ら ル 1 3 み み ろ ろ み 7 ら ろ ね ち ろ 2 ね ち ま ま み も も m к О order decimals RI O NUMBER TESTED order fractions **MATHEMATICS** 16/60 GRADE 8 DISTRICT DATE: EAST GRANBY BERLIN BETHEL BLOOMFIELD BOLTON BOZRAH BRANFORO BRIDGEPORT BROOKFIELD CANTERBURY COLCHESTER CORNALL COVENTRY CRONNELL DANBURY DARIEN DERBY BROOKLYN COLUMBIA EASTFORD CHESHIRE CLINTON ANSONIA ASHFORD BRISTOL CAMTON TEST **₹** 

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CONNECTICUT MASTERY TESTING PROGRAM

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	TOC 5 TOTAL	3422	83 80 95 81 80 74 85 84	98 85 85 96	97 91 75 62 55 63	3 90 70 70	99 91 91 71 48 73 8	86 82 85 63	65 48 75 81 54	28.1	4	46
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APPENDIX I

Fall 1991 Grade Eight

State by District Report:

Language Arts

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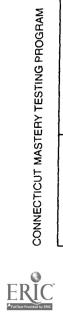


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#### APPENDIX J Type of Community Classifications



#### Type of Community

- TOC 1 = LARGE CITY a town with a population of more than 100,000.
- TOC 2 = FRINGE CITY a town contiguous with a large city, and with a population over 10,000.
- TOC 3 = MEDIUM CITY a town with a population between 25,000 and 100,000 and not a Fringe City.
- TOC 4 = SMALL TOWN (Suburban) a town within an SMSA\* with a population of less than 25,000, not a Fringe City.
- TOC 5 = SMALL TOWN (Emerging Suburban) a town with a population of less than 25,000 included in what was a proposed 1980 SMSA but not included in a 1970 SMSA.
- TOC 6 = SMALL TOWN (Pural) a town not included in an SMSA, with a population of less than 25,000.



<sup>\*</sup>Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

#### APPENDIX K Education Reference Group Descriptions

#### Education Reference Group Descriptions

The education reference groups were formed from an analysis of districts' median family income, a percentage of high school graduates, a percentage of those in managerial/professional occupations, a percentage of single-parent families, a percentage of those below poverty and a percentage of non-English home language from the 1980 census. The groups have not been named, but have been labeled I through VII. Note, however, that the groups run from extremely affluent suburban communities (I) to our three largest cities of Hartford, Bridgeport and New Haven (VII). Some differ widely with respect to all of the family background variables; others differ slightly with respect to one or two. In addition to the six variables used to classify districts, the group descriptions below also include superintendents' comments that were provided in a Department survey in 1988.

Group I. These 13 districts were wealthy, professional suburbs. The median family income in 1979 averaged \$40,425. Residents were extremely well educated. Nearly 90% had at least a high school diploma, 42% had a bachelor's degree and 49% had a managerial or professional job. There were relatively few children with educational disadvantages here. Only 7% of the families were single-parent, about 8% spoke a language other than English at home and almost no one (2%) lived in poverty. Superintendents within these towns used the adjectives "suburban," "affluent," "growing" and "bedroom community" to describe them.

Group II. Residents in the 29 districts of Group II were affluent, well-educated professionals, but to a lesser extent than residents of Group I. The median family income averaged \$28,113, more than 83% of the residents had high school diplomas, 29% had a college degree and 36% had a managerial or professional job. Like Group I, this group had a low percentage of people who spoke another language at home (8%), almost no one in poverty (2%) and relatively few single-parent families (9%). Like the superintendents in Group I, superintendents from these towns described their communities as "affluent," "bedroom communities," "growing" and "suburban."

Group III. These 34 districts were mostly rural bedroom communities. Like Groups I and II, these towns did not have many disadvantaged children. There were only 7% who spoke a language other than English at home, only 7% who were from single-parent families and only 3% who were poor. Adults were slightly less affluent (median family income of \$24,431), less likely to have a high school diploma (77%) and less likely to have a managerial or professional job (28%) than people in Group II. Like the previous two groups, these towns were described by superintendents as "suburban," "growing" and "bedroom communities." Several superintendents used "rural" and "middle class" (as well as "affluent") to describe their communities.



Group IV. This group of 37 districts was probably the most diverse set of towns, containing a number of coastal and resort communities, as well as rural and suburban areas. Group IV was similiar to Group III in median family income (\$22,609), percentage of high school graduates (77%), percentage of managers/professionals (29%) and percentage of non-English home language (7%), but had a significantly higher percentage of single-parent families (12% versus 7%) and a slightly higher percentage of families below poverty (5% versus 3%). Superintendents' descriptions reflect this group's diversity. They describe their towns as "bedroom," "growing," "rural," "suburban," "middle income" and "affluent."

Group V. These 30 districts made up the first group of working class/blue collar communities. This group had a significantly lower percentage of high school graduates (68%) and percentage of managers/professionals (19%) than Group IV. Other characterisitics were similar to Group IV: the average income was \$21,920, there were 11% single-parent families, 5% below poverty and 9% of the population spoke a language other than English at home.

Group VI. This group of 23 districts included the state's medium-sized cities, the larger cities of Stamford and Waterbury, several former mill towns and some densely populated blue collar suburbs. Group VI had similar socioeconomic characteristics as Group V, but significantly greater proportions of single-parent families and families in which English was not the primary home language. The median family income of \$20,325 was below the state average. An average of 16% of the residents spoke another language at home, and 17% of the families were headed by single parents. Only 63% of the residents had high school diplomas, and 6% lived below poverty level.

**Group VII.** Hartford, Bridgeport and New Haven were vastly different from other communities in Connecticut. An average of 28% of the families spoke a language other than English, 46% were headed by single parents, 20% lived in poverty and the median family income was \$15,240.



#### APPENDIX L Student Participation Rates



PARTICIPATION RATES FOR EIGHTH-GRADE STUDENTS BY DISTRICT SCHOOL YEAR 1991-1992

DISTRICT	EIGHTH-GRADE POPULATION	SIUDENIS ELIGIBLE FOR TESTING	PERCENT OF STUDENT POP EXEMPT FROM TESTING	PERCENT	OF ELIGIBLE	STUDENTS TESTED	TED
× - 1000	•			CETHICE		5 E	KEAUING
ASHEORD	081	168	2.9	98.2	97.0	95.2	97.6
AVON	1,58	200	2.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
BERLIN	168	162	۰. د	0.001	100.0	0.001	100.0
ВЕТНЕС	212	206	2 e	4.001	0.00	8.86	4 66
BLOOMF I ELD	179	171	) c:	100.0	0.001	0.00	14.00
BOLTON	611	64	. 0.	100.0	95.0	2.00 8.10	0.4
BUZKAH	15	15	0.	100.0	100.0	100	, ,
BRANFURU	227		2.2	100.0	100	1001	
SKIDGEFORI	1,338	1,227	8.3	99.3	98.5	9.40	2.76
BKISIOL	520	473	0.6	100.0	8,06	900	. oc
BROOK! TELD	186	185	٠.	98.9	6.86	60.00	30.0
DACONE TE	₩,	78	3.7	100.0	98.7	98.7	7.00
CANAAN	· -	7	0.	100.0	100.0	100	1001
CANIERBURY	/3	72	4.1	100.0	98.6	98.6	986
RO RO	æ ;	87	1.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
CAESAIRE	308	301	2.3	7.66	7.66	98.7	
CELMICA	159	147	7.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
COLCHESTER	070	137	2.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100
COLUMBIA	09	58	3.3	98.3	100.0	100	100
CONTINENT		13	0.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100
COVERING	1.16	114	3.4	100.0	100.0	99.1	0.001
DAMBER	123	122	φ.	100.0	100,0	99.5	100.0
770000	999	543	9.3	98.2	7.86	94.3	96.1
× × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × ×	193	192	ç.	100.0	100.0	99.5	100
FACTEORD	o <del>:</del> '	105	4.5	100.0	100.0	94.3	100.0
FACT CDALBY	<del>-</del> ;	L 13	7.1	100.0	100.0	92.3	92.3
	- 0	51	0.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	120	08,	2.4	97.5	100.0	98.8	98.8
	077	911	œ. ;	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	0 14 0	E 60	11.9	9.68	100.0	88.0	88.3
	158	703	~.	0.66	97.0	9.46	96.6
EASTON	0,00	000	o.,	0.001	100.0	98.7	4.66
EAST WINDSOR	. 96	0 0	7:1	00.0	100.0	98.8	98.8
ELLINGTON	151	142	7.01	v	97.5	97.5	97.5
ENFIELD	1436	429	. 4	5 00 8 00	y. 00	8.00	98.6
FAIRFIELD	044	421	. 4	0.001	200.0	0.00	00.00
FARMINGTON	206	196	6.4	98.5	20.00	ν. α ο ι	y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y y
FRANKLIN	22	22	0.	100.0	100.001	, r.	
GLAS LONBURY	356	355	e.	100.0	100.0	4.66	100
CRANST	112	111	6.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.00
CARTE MATCH	967	194	5.8	99.1	100.0	98.5	8.66
GROTON	148	143		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
GOOD TO THE FORD	301	8/8 6/9	3.6	99.5	99.5	99.5	99.2
HAMDEN	326	315		99.6	100.0	93.6	9.66
HARTFORD	1.665	7 1 2 2 2	*	4. 66	7.66	4.66	98.7
HARTLAND	•	•	12.6	7.76	97.9	93.7	95.9
KENT	34	29	2. 11	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.001
KILLINGLY	228	222	2.6	99.5	100.0	100.0	93.
LEBANON	780	78	10.3	98.7	100.0	98.7	100.0
I ISBON	627	226	e	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	<b>t</b>	69	٥	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0



#### READING PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS TESTED WRITING LANGUAGE ARTS PARTICIPATION RATES FOR EIGHTH-GRADE STUDENTS BY DISTRICT SCHOOL YEAR 1991-1992 MATHEMATICS 8.76.000 9.76.0000 9.76. RCENT OF STUDENT POP EXEMPT FROM TESTING | 40| - 70 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 20 | - 2 9.1. 9.3.2.2.2.1. 13.2.2.2.1. PERCENT POP STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR TESTING TOTAL EIGHTH-GRADE POPULATION MOUNTVILLE MAUGATUCK NEW BRITAIN NEW CANAAN NEW FAIRFIELD NEW HAVEN NEW HAVEN NEW HORDON NEW HOLONDON NEW HILFORD NORTH STONINGTON NORTH STONINGTON NORTH STONINGTON NORTH HAVEN NORTH HAVEN NORTH STONINGTON NORTH STONINGTON NORTH STONINGTON NORTH STONINGTON NORTH STONINGTON NORTH STONINGTON NORTH STONINGTON NORTH STONINGTON NORTH HAVEN NORTH STONINGTON NORTH HAVEN NORTH STONINGTON SAFRON SAFRON SHELD SAFRON SHERMAN SOUTH NIGTON SOUTH WINDSOR STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD STAMFORD LITCHFIELD MADISON MANCHESTER MANSFIELD MERIDEN MIDDLETOWN MILFORD DISTRICT



PARTICIPATION RATES FOR EIGHTH-GRADF STUDENTS BY DISTRICT SCHOOL YEAR 1991-1992

	TOTAL Eighth-grade	STUDENTS ELIGIBLE		PERCENT	T OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS TESTED	UDENTS TEST	TED
DISTRICT	POPULATION	FOR TESTING	FROM TESTING	MATHEMATICS	LANGUAGE ARTS	WRITING	· X
THOMPSON	118	114	4.8	99.1	98.2	089	080
COLLAND	138	138	0.	100.0	0.001	1001	1001
TORKINGTON	303	274	9.6	100.0	98.2	98.5	0.80
IN UMBULL	366	365	۳.	7.66	7.66	2 66	1.00
NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO N	0 10	10	0.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
VENNON	374	294	7.9	7.66	99.0	98.6	98.6
	28	28	0.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
MARIE MGF ORD	4.15	395	8.4	7.66	99.5	99,2	99.2
	,003	922	8.1	98.8	98.9	98.6	98.2
MATERIORS MATERIORS	173	0,70	1.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
WESTRROOK	447	97.7	10.1	99.5	99.5	99.1	99.1
WEST HARTFORD	- 7 4	n V	w. c	98.0	100.0	100.0	98.0
MEST HAVEN	* = a	720	3.5	93.66	<b>4.</b> 66	93.6	8.66
KESTON	7 600	- C	æ.	100.0	98.9	97.6	97.6
WESTPORT	20-0	- 00	0.	0.66	99.0	99.0	0.66
WETHERSFIELD	236	230	80 F	100.0	100.0	100.0	9.66
WILLINGTON	953	C77		93.6	9.66	9.66	9.66
WILTON	225	700	·	100.0	100.0	98.5	100.0
WINCHESTER	118	108	) · «	100.0	100.0	98.7	9.66
WINDHAM	220	201		00.0	0.001	100.0	100.0
WINDSOR	351	341	 	0.60	97.4	95.4	6.96
WINDSOR LOCKS	123	115	0.7		97.9	97.1	97.9
WOLCOTT	169	991		1.66	1.96	1.66	99.1
WOODSTOCK	87	87	2.0	0.00	100.0	0.001	7.66
	145	143	 -		1.76	94.3	97.7
REGIONAL SCH 5	308	30.6	· ~	0.00	0.00	100.0	100.0
	57	57	) O	0.00	10001		100.0
	141	127	, o	0.001	0.00	0.00	0.00.
	211	211	, o	100.0	0.00.0	0.00	0.001
SCH	192	177	7.8	100.0	7.00		v -
SCH.	61	57	9.9	0.001	100.1	1.00	4.00
SCH	7/	74		1001		0.00	100.0
	122	122	· •	97.5	0.00	0.00	0.00
SCH	16	96	1.0	100.0	100.0	100.001	1001
50	232	231	≉.	100.0	100.0	100	100.0
PEGIONAL SCH 16	133	133	0.	99.5	99.2	99.2	100.0
500	145	137	5.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
	85	85	0.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0



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PARTICIPATION RATES FOR EIGHTH-GRADE STUDENTS BY DISTRICT SCHOOL YEAR 1991-1992

	TOTAL	STUDENTS	PERCENT OF STUDENT	F STUDENT	PERCENT OF	PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS TESTED	JDENTS TEST	
DISTRICT	POPULATION	FOR TESTING	FROM T	ESTING	MATHEMATICS	LANGUAGE ARTS	WRITING	READING
TOC 1 TOTAL	6,024	5,439	6	7.6	98.5	98.4	95.6	8.96
TOC 2 TOTAL	6,891	6,590	<i>=</i>	<b>1</b> . 1	98.9	39.5	98.1	98.5
TOC 3 TOTAL	7,643	7,214	3	5.6	99.3	0.66	97.9	98.3
TOC 4 TOTAL	2444	6,312	2	2.1	7.66	7.66	4.66	7.66
TOC 5 TOTAL	3,539	3,439	2	2.8	5.66	4.66	98.8	99.2
TOC 6 TOTAL	2,650	2,533	7	7.7	4.66	4.66	7.86	99.1
ERG 1 TOTAL	1,789	1,767	•	1.2	6.66	6.66	99.5	9.66
ERG 1 TOTAL	1,789	1,767	-	.2	6.66	6.66	99.5	9.66
ERG 2 TOTAL	5,854	5,734	2	2.0	9.66	7.66	4.66	9.66
ERG 3 TOTAL	3,585	3,471	n	3.2	7.66	9.66	0.66	99.5
ERG 4 TOTAL	4,918	4,754	n	3.3	9.66	9.66	99.2	99.3
ERG 5 TOTAL	4,365	4,185	<i>=</i>	4.1	3.99	99.3	7.86	99.2
ERG 6 TOTAL	8,475	7,841	7	7.5	98.6	98.8	7.96	97.3
ERG 7 TOTAL	4,208	3.775	10	10.3	4.86	98.1	7.46	96.3
	;							
STATE TOTAL	33,194	31,527	ľ.	5.0	99.5	99.5	98.0	98.5





#### Connecticut State Department of Education

Division of Research, Evaluation and Student Assessment Douglas A. Rindone, Acting Director

> Bureau of Evaluation and Student Assessment Peter Behuniak, Acting Chief

> > Student Assessment and Testing Unit William J. Congero, Coordinator

> > > Patricia Brandt Richard Cloud Naomi Wise Education Service Specialists

John B. Rogers Education Service Assistant

Richard F. Mooney, Senior Program Associate

Stephen Martin, Assessment Associate

Division of Curriculum and Professional Development Betty Sternberg, Director

> Steven Leinwand Mari Muri Mathematics Consultants

Karen Costello Reading/Language Arts Consultant

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